



BLIND DAVE HAS THE KEY TO SUCCESS AS ALBION FUNDRAISER



Heroic Dave Heeley with Tony Pulis and Darren Fletcher

INSPIRATIONAL fundraiser Blind Dave Heeley has been awarded the Freedom of The Hawthorns in recognition of his extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Baggies and club charity the Albion Foundation.

Head coach Tony Pulis and team captain Darren Fletcher presented him with a symbolic key to the ground of his beloved Baggies at a surprise climax to the Foundation's 25th anniversary dinner.

Members of the board, coaching staff, FA technical director Dan Ashworth, and club legends like Tony 'Bomber' Brown and Brendon Batson were on hand to applaud the 59-year-old father-of-three from West Bromwich. Players Chris Brunt, Jonny Evans, James Morrison, Gareth McAuley,

Matt Phillips, Salomon Rondon, Jonathan Leko and Ben Foster also attended.

Pulis said: "I've been here for just over two years and when you come here you realise what a wonderful man he is. I've done a lot of stuff for my own charity just up the road but Dave surpasses that by miles and miles and miles. He's a remarkable guy." Fletcher added: "He's one of the most inspirational characters I've ever met."

The key guarantees Dave and his carer free passage to Albion games for the rest of his life and written on it in braille is an explanation from the club as to why they decided to grant him this unprecedented honour. The award was kept secret from the man who has run the equivalent of more

than two laps of the Earth raising funds for the Foundation.

Heeley was initially left speechless, but once he collected himself he responded: "It's just fantastic. I could use stronger words but my kids are here!"

In 2008, Blind Dave became the first blind person to complete seven marathons in seven days on seven continents. In 2011 he ran 10 marathons in 10 days from John O'Groats to Land's End.

This year he began yet another record-breaking challenge as he bids to become the first blind man to complete every Great Run in the 2017 series, set to finish in Ethiopia in November as Dave celebrates his 60th birthday.

HEALTH

MP tells of blood poisoning battle

DUDLEY South MP Mike Wood has revealed how he almost died after being struck down by blood poisoning.

The Conservative MP was placed in an induced coma after developing sepsis.

He initially had a sore throat but continued to deteriorate to the point doctors feared he may die.

Mr Wood, who was elected Dudley South MP at the 2015 general election, is now battling back to recovery. He even managed to return to the House of Commons for Monday's crucial Brexit vote.

Mr Wood is now campaigning to raise awareness of the form of blood poisoning, which can be fatal if not treated immediately.

ATTACK

Stabbed man in stable condition

A MAN who was stabbed in a Netherton street is now in a stable condition, say police.

Inquiries are ongoing following the incident in Halesowen Road, on the corner of Crossley Street, at around midnight on Sunday.

The 28-year-old suffered multiple stab wounds near Netherton Health Centre in the incident, during which residents heard shouting and screaming. Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101.

DAMAGE

Water supplies are cut after pipe bursts

RESIDENTS in Stourbridge and Halesowen had their water supply cut after a pipe ruptured on Tuesday morning.

Severn Trent apologised to their customers after the burst water pipe on Hagley Road, Halesowen, led to some supplies being cut off, or being left at low pressure, for people living in the B63 and DY9 postcodes.

Engineers initially struggled to access the pipe in order to mend it after receiving their first call at 6am but the pipe was fixed by lunchtime. A spokesman for Severn Trent said: "We're sorry for the inconvenience this may have caused."

INSIDE

HEAVEN SENT SINGER EMELI



PAGE 23

Pregnant Bake A Cake boss conned couples out of £100k

WEDDING FRAUD MOTHER JAILED

A 'CALLOUS and deceitful' pregnant mother-of-two has been jailed for three years after bringing misery to brides across the country.

Former nurse Lisa Holt pocketed more than £100,000 while tricking customers into paying for catering packages that never arrived at wedding receptions and birthday parties.

The 41-year-old's mechanic husband Ryan, also 41, who illegally raked in £57,000 helping to run Bake A Cake, their fraudulent Halesowen-based business that collapsed in summer 2015, had his prison sentence reduced to nine months for the sake of their children.

The double-dealing businesswoman brought heartbreak to brides throughout the country. She was the brains behind the online firm that let down scores of people who had paid for slap up meals, wedding cakes, chocolate fountains, DJs, decorations and photo booths that never arrived. Customers handed over up to £1,700 each before discovering the firm had suddenly closed.

More than 2,500 people joined a Facebook group called Burned Brides which included many of those hit by the shut down.

Desperate

Dudley Trading Standards Department, who launched an investigation, received complaints from 150 people who were owed a total of £56,000.

Desperate Holt tried to lie her way out of trouble by claiming her husband was close to death, that burglars had stolen all the business documents from her home and that the address had also been hit by arsonists. She even said she was under police protection. It was all nonsense.

She conned over £45,000 from internet giant Wowcher after it signed up 556 customers for the firm by publicising Bake a Cake at events run between May and July 2015. They paid the catering company for

Report by John Scott

photo booths and chocolate fountains that never arrived at birthday parties and wedding receptions but she kept their money.

Wowcher was left to refund all the disappointed punters because the bogus deals had been unwittingly struck through them.

Bambooths, who provided photo booths at more than 200 Bake a Cake events, until it stopped dealing with her in August 2015, were told by Holt when unable to meet a promised delivery to a customer 'don't worry I'll make up an excuse'. She still owes them £3,500.

She made a total profit of £104,000 from the fraudulent business with almost £400,000, including benefit payments, going through her account. During the same period her husband received almost £300,000 - including his legitimate earnings - of which £107,500 was transferred to his wife. The price of his dishonesty was agreed at £57,000.

Judge Barry Berlin told Lisa Holt at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Tuesday: "You are a callous and dishonest woman."

● Lies and excuses - Page 2



Lisa Holt, who arrived at court on crutches, pocketed more than £100,000 by tricking customers

Make Life Easier For Your Loved Ones

Protect yourself against rising costs with a pre-paid funeral plan.

We have a choice of plans with options to add your own personal touches. To find out more contact us today.



2 CONTENTS

PETER RHODES	6
LETTERS	7
REVIEWS	10
LIFESTYLE	18
THE TICKET	23
PROPERTY	31
MOTORING	37 & 38
SPORT	39 & 40
CONTACT US	

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Nicola Cope
Tel: 01902 319573
E-mail: nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey
Tel: 01902 313131 ext 3731
E-mail: colin.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Halesowen
CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

DON'T MISS YOUR
Express & Star

EVERY DAY
ON THE BALL
All your latest sports updates

EVERY SATURDAY
NIGEL HASTILOW
He always tackles the hot topics head-on

Couple jailed after 700 left out of pocket



Ryan Holt laundered cash

MORE than 700 people were left out of pocket when Halesowen-based online business Bake A Cake went bust, causing misery for hundreds of brides and bridegrooms.

Lisa Holt pleaded guilty to participating in a fraudulent business between May 1, 2014 and August 31, 2015, defrauding Wowcha and making a false insurance claim while her husband admitted money laundering.

Mr Mark Jackson, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court: "Lisa operated an online business purporting to provide catering packages and other ser-

vices for weddings and parties. Over and over again, when customers paid for services, nothing was provided. People had important events in their lives ruined."

She continued taking bookings and cash after it was obvious there was no chance of performing the services for which people had paid. Her husband siphoned the money through his bank account, spending the cash or transferring to his wife's account.

Mr Jackson said: "The prosecution had 158 separate complaints about Lisa Holt and her trading practices. The victims discussed their orders with Lisa Holt

with payments being made, in the main, into Ryan Holt's bank account"

Judge Barry Berlin, who put Lisa Holt behind bars for three years and Ryan Holt for nine months, told Lisa Holt: "You were practised in making excuses to your clients while displaying a biased attitude." He told her husband: "You accept that you should have asked more questions. You did not want to know the answers."

The couple have two children, seven and three, while Lisa Holt is expecting twins. Judge Berlin said that this could not over ride the need for justice.

Jail for man who held a syringe to drivers' necks

A ROBBER who held a syringe, which he claimed was 'infected with Aids', to the neck of taxi drivers in the Black Country has been jailed for seven years.

David Purcell left two cabbies terrified when he threatened them with the needle and stole money from them in attacks last summer.

The 31-year-old from Halesowen first struck on June 6 when he got into a taxi on Cloister Drive and held a syringe he claimed was infected with Aids to the driver's neck.

He demanded cash and fled on foot after the petrified cabbie handed it over.

On July 14 he repeated the crime, this time threatening a driver with the infection on Shenstone Avenue.

Neither victim was injured in the robberies.

Purcell, from Hamilton Avenue, was caught out when police worked with the owner of the cab firm and linked the phone number that had ordered the taxis to the mobile owned by the criminal.

The device was found on Purcell when he was arrested three weeks later.

Detective Constable Sean Lowe, who led the investigation for West Midlands Police, praised the bravery of the victims for coming forward and identifying Purcell.

"These serious offences understandably caused a lot of concern amongst cab drivers in the area," he said.

Purcell was charged with two counts of robbery and jailed at Wolverhampton Crown Court on March 1.

Society milestone meeting at Portal

THE Black Country Society's annual general meeting will be held before its next lecture at Dudley Canal Trust's The Portal, off Birmingham New Road, on Wednesday, March 22.

The society also plans to show Black Country films made in the 1960s and centred on the Turks Head pub in Brierley Hill.

The illustrated lecture by Roger Butler will be about a canal trip in the West Midlands in the 1970s, a nostalgic journey along local canals and the River Severn.

The 50th Annual General Meeting will take place before the lecture.

The evening starts at 7.30pm with admission £2 for non-members.

Call to relatives of Coseley man

A CALL has gone out for relatives of the late Terrence Clark to get in touch with the Black Country coroner.

Mr Clark was found at his home in Rounds Hill Road, Coseley, on Sunday.

Call 0121 569 6990 with any information.

Just lies and excuses as brides' big day ruined

"SHE just lied and lied", says one of the victims of heartless conwoman Lisa Holt, adding that the former nurse 'did not care one jot' over the misery she caused.

Victims included one of her neighbours in Halesowen, Kirsty Robinson, who ordered her flowers, 100 seat covers and sashes, cake, centre pieces, table cloths and photo booth from the firm only to find out via Facebook that the company had closed.

Just days before her marriage the 30-year-old from Albert Road, Halesowen, she was left without the £800 wedding cake. She said: "We were all depressed when we should have been so excited."

Carly Armstrong travelled from her home in Nottingham to see Holt sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court after losing the £1,700 paid to make her wedding the best day of her life.

"She did not care one jot," said the 32-year-old. "A few of the items I ordered did turn up but were rubbish. She just lied and lied to me during the final week before the wedding. On the day of the service I was crying my eyes out. I wanted it all to be perfect but it was a mess."

Turmoil

Katie Washbourne, 30, of Solihull, put her wedding party in the hands of Holt after seeing an advert on Facebook. But the plans were thrown into turmoil when Holt failed to contact Mrs Washbourne and her husband Richard, 34, after they had paid her an upfront fee of £600.

Another couple affected were Matt and Jemma Cooper, who were married at Priory Park. Claire Moore lost £1,355 on a host of attractions that never arrived for the 160 guests at the wedding of her daughter while the collapse cost nurse Abbie Sullivan £1,400 paid for her wedding reception.

Shameless Holt sent a group email to worried customers in which she lied about an arson attack on her home and a burglary in which business records and equipment had allegedly been stolen.

She also made a false insurance claim to AXA alleging that a £6,000 hog roast was taken in the bogus burglary.

Holt, of Albert Road, Halesowen, admitted defrauding Bake A Cake customers. She pleaded guilty to defrauding Wowcha and making a false insurance claim. Her husband pleaded guilty to money laundering.

Holt is repaying those she cheated at £1-a-month. Miss Nicole Steers, defending, told the court: "She has taken some steps to settle her debts but knows she can never repay people for the misery she caused."



Wedding scam victims Kirsty Robinson, centre, with Stella Weston and Corinne Sherwood, who all lost money



Liar and cheat Lisa Holt has been jailed for three years



Katie and Richard Washbourne at their wedding

Denture Care

- We have a special interest in your denture
- Listening to our patients, communication is key for success
- We can spend over 3 hours to ensure the perfect smile
- The most advance techniques are used to customise your denture all under one roof
- A range is available to accommodate everyone's budget.

NEW
DENTURES

COPY
DENTURES

NATURAL
LOOKING

DENTURE
REPAIR

Providing a professional, personal & discreet service. Patient satisfaction is our highest priority

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

Lee Jorrington **01384 468 648**

CDT RCS ENG RDT.

3a BLACKBERRY LANE, HALESOWEN, B63 4NX

HOME VISITS
AVAILABLE

ABLE & BROMLEY CARPETS/BEDS
WHOLESALE & RETAIL WAREHOUSE

UPTO 75% OFF

SOFAS - VINYL - LAMINATES - STAIRLIFTS Est 1978

Disabled. Can't Get Out. OAP
Or anyone needing that extra help?
Can't come to us - We'll come to you
We will bring 100's of carpet samples, sofa and bed brochures to your door

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T
Remove and take away old carpets/beds
Move heavy furniture and shave doors
Terms and conditions apply.

Unit D Dormston Trading Estate, Burton Road, Upper Gornal
www.ablecarpets.co.uk
FREEPHONE 0800 0853747 COVERS ALL AREAS

Halesowen • Hasbury
Cradley • Hayley Green
Oldhill • Rowley Regis
Blackheath • Oldbury

Adrian Bromley
01902 880541

BROKEN DENTURES?
AT THE DENTAL SHOP

Need Your Dentures Repairing Fast Well Look No Further We Are The Leading Specialists In Denture Repair!

We Also Offer A Denture Cleaning Service!

01384 413444 Emergency Weekend
07701 067261 Repair Service Available

The Dental Shop 231 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

Footworks Chiropody
The Registered Chiropodist

Ingrown Toe Nails Treated
Toe Nail Cutting and Trimming
Diabetic Foot Care
General Foot Care
Callus Reduction

Home Visit Service Also Available
01384 413444

201 - 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

NEWS IN BRIEF

Starter homes for first time buyers

COUNCIL bosses have revealed that work could begin in September to build 79 starter homes on the sites of community centres and a care home. Dudley Council is aiming the properties at first time buyers and will be selling them at a 20 per cent discount. The cash-strapped authority also hopes to make £1.8 million profit.

The sites are at former community centres, the Mere Centre in Stourbridge, Turner House at Wrens Nest and St Thomas Network in Dudley, plus the site of Amblecote House care home.

Stolen Jag was found at scrapyard

A STOLEN Jaguar car has been recovered from a scrapyard in the Brierley Hill area.

West Midlands Police officers from Stourbridge were out on Saturday morning conducting routine enquiries when they came across the X-type and are making enquiries as to how it ended up there.

The Stourbridge Police team posted on Twitter: "Team out doing arrest enquiries this morning located a stolen Jaguar x-type at a salvage yard in Brierley Hill. Vehicle has been recovered."

Club to relaunch as a gay venue

THE former Rock Zombie nightclub is set to re-open as a venue aimed at the gay scene, called Bar Diva.

Businessman Christopher Marson has confirmed that he has the keys to the venue and work has begun on renovation.

He said: "If all goes to plan then we'll open on April 14. We're just waiting on the licence. The keys have been handed over so the venue is now in my hands. We're just trying to change it all around at the moment."

Ambulance window is smashed by yob

AN ambulance chief has spoken of his outrage after a rock was thrown at paramedics rushing an elderly patient to hospital.

It smashed through the passenger window of the ambulance in the early hours of Sunday, as they drove on the A449 near Hartlebury. Medics had to wait for another ambulance to convey the critically ill patient to Worcester-shire Royal Hospital. Safety manager Steve Elliker said: "I just couldn't believe that anyone would do this."

Gardens science day

A COMMUNITY garden in Dudley is hosting a science day this weekend.

Jasmine Road Community Gardens, in Kates Hill, holds the event on Saturday between 11am and 4pm.

There will be displays, workshops, food and a chance to learn about the science of growing plants.

Now get on with it, MPs tell Prime Minister

MPS have called on the Prime Minister to 'get on' with Brexit after a historic night in Parliament.

Dudley MPs Ian Austin and Mike Wood both said Theresa May should now start Britain's exit from the European Union as MPs and Lords last night voted on whether to trigger Article 50 - the formal mechanism for leaving the European Union.

Conservative Dudley South MP Mike Wood made his first appearance in the Commons while recovering from a life-threatening illness to support the Government.

He said: "There is speculation that the Prime Minister will trigger Article 50 by the end of the month. I think we have reached the point where there is nothing to gain from further delay."

"Everything is now in place and we need to get on with negotiating the best possible deal for Britain. We face some very tough and challenging negotiations. The fact they will be hard underlines why it was wrong for MPs and Lords to tie the Prime Minister's hands by putting conditions on what she could do."

"Placing those restrictions on the Prime Minister would clearly hinder our ability to get the best possible deal."

Labour Dudley North MP Ian Austin agreed he did not want any further delays.

He said: "Whether or not I've got confidence in Theresa May isn't the issue. I've got confidence in the people I represent and the British people. I respect them and the result of the referendum so I voted to trigger Article 50."

Deal

"I don't want any delays I'm crystal clear. I want Theresa May to get on with it."

"I'm working hard to get the best deal for Dudley. Local people tell me that jobs must be the top priority, followed by NHS funding and immigration."

"I want a deal that helps local firms and brings new jobs to Dudley and I want the Government to guarantee that they'll replace the grants we currently get from the EU, especially the £50 million the Black Country gets each year for skills and training."

The comments came as MPs voted on the final stages of the EU Withdrawal Bill in the Commons on Monday night.

The legislation had initially been voted through last month but went back before the Commons after it was rejected in the House of Lords.

Delays predicted during gas work

GAS works are expected to cause disruption on a busy road in Brierley Hill for the next three weeks. Temporary traffic lights will be up on Leys Road, Brockmoor, until the end of the month.

Bus station revamp links to Metro stop

A MAJOR £9 million revamp of Dudley bus station, which will see it linked to the Midland Metro, is expected within five years.

Work to improve the town's outdated bus station has been in the pipeline since 2014 but the project was put on hold last year.

Dudley Council's regeneration boss now says that work could start before 2022.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for planning and economic regeneration at Dudley Council, said the delay was down to the project becoming much bigger after it was tied in with the Metro.

The Metro is due to be extended to Dudley and Brierley Hill.

The project is a joint operation between Dudley Council, the Midland Metro Alliance (MMA) and Network West Midlands.

Councillor Ahmed said the plans were in the 'very early stages'.

MMA, which is working on behalf of the West Midlands Combined Authority, expects work on the tram route to begin in 2019 and for the new route to be open for passengers by 2023.

Councillor Ahmed said: "There are clear plans, which are absolutely great for Dudley. I expect the terminal to be built much quicker than 2022. The tram will travel up Castle Hill, go along Castle Street and will come through Dudley bus station."

He added: "The people of Dudley have been de-

prived for too long and it is not acceptable. It will be a great hub of transport and will transform the area. The opportunities are huge."

The terminal will be comprised of a redeveloped bus station, which will alone cost £6,830,000.

The tram stop will be part of the new Midland Metro line to be built between Brierley Hill and Wednesbury.

The terminal would allow passengers to catch bus and tram services in close proximity, allowing them more direct links to travel across the region.

The Metro will use the old railway line for part of the route servicing Great Bridge, Dudley Port, Dudley town centre, the Waterfront and Merry Hill, before terminating in Brierley Hill town centre.

'Rat-run' speed limit is reduced to 40mph

THE speed limit on a rat-run linking Stourbridge and Halesowen will be reduced to 40mph.

Wynall Lane South, Lutley Lane, Wessell Grove Road and Foxcote Lane will all be reduced from the national speed limit due to safety concerns.

The change is needed due to fears that vehicles travelling at 60mph posed a risk to cyclists and pedestrians.

Highways bosses insist the speed reduction will make it safer for people who live on the roads but there are concerns it has not gone far enough.

Councillor Richard Body said the roads were 'still too dangerous' despite the lower speed limit.

Councillors and residents had called for action over claims drivers are not slowing down enough when entering the residential area at the end of Wynall Lane South and Lutley Lane. Councillor Body said the amount of traffic using the lanes had increased dramatically in recent years and called for a 30mph limit.

Ignore

But chiefs said decided against it as it was thought drivers would ignore the slower limit.

The stretch links Brook Holloway, Stourbridge, with the Hagley Road and is often used by drivers heading towards the M5. Flashing signs will go up along the lanes to remind those going too fast of the new speed limit.

Dudley Council environment boss Hilary Bills said: "It's used as a rat-run to avoid Grange island and traffic around Halesowen. People were travelling too quickly when they left the rat-run and went through the residential areas."

"When they hit the 30 either end they weren't slowing down and were going too quickly. We can put up repeater signs so people remember they're supposed to be going at 40. It is expected that the signs will be up in a couple of months."

Councillor Body, who represents Cradley and Wollscote, said: "Even at 40mph it is too quick."

Traders furious over gas works



Much of the High Street in Cradley Heath has been closed to traffic during the gas work, to traders' dismay

BUSINESS owners have blasted gas works on a Black Country high street as 'the final nail in the coffin', after seeing a dramatic fall in the number of customers.

Traders say Cradley Heath High Street has been dug up further along the road than they were told and that disruptive work is lasting longer than anticipated.

Ken Ball has seen a noticeable drop in customers at his specialist brewing shop Brewmonkey Home-

brew on the High Street, which he has owned for the past five years.

He said: "The National Grid gave a leaflet to traders on Cradley Heath High Street detailing the timing and extent of the proposed road closures due to gas works on High Street and Prince Street."

"Now without any consultation they have changed their plans and moved further up the High Street, causing disruption and financial

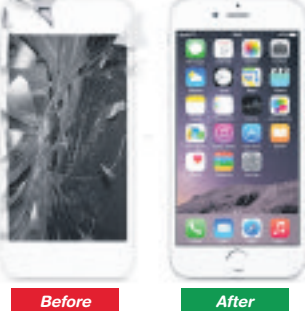
loss that the traders have not been able to plan for."

Next door Marva Innis, who has run her womenswear shop Marva's for a decade, said: "It is the final nail in the coffin. We are losing customers."

A spokesman from Sandwell Council said they understood that work is due to finish on March 31. A National Grid spokesperson said: "The work is on schedule. We have kept businesses updated."

iPhone doc

iPhone screen repair service



iPhone 5, 5c, 5s **only £49**
iPhone 6 **only £59**

- ✓ Fast and friendly local service
- ✓ No need to post it - we come to you
- ✓ Same day service
- ✓ High quality screens
- ✓ 12 month warranty
- ✓ Screens repaired within the hour

TEL: 07541 599400

STAY WARM AND SECURE

Affordable Luxury Composite Doors



www.oaklodgedoors.co.uk

Oak Lodge Buildings, Furnace Hill,
Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3LZ

Call 0121 550 1444



OAK LODGE DOORS LTD
COMPOSITE DOOR SPECIALISTS

4 PCC awards looking for more names

Halesowen Chronicle Thursday, March 16, 2017

THE halfway stage has been reached for nominations for the PCC's Outstanding Citizens Awards 2017.

The deadline is April 17 before the glittering awards night in July at the home of Warwickshire Cricket Club, Edgbaston stadium.

The event will honour unsung heroes from across the West Midlands and a spokesperson said 'some inspiring entries have been submitted so far'.

Last year, 15-year-old Millie Dee from West Bromwich won the Outstanding Young Citizen award after she has chased a burglar from her home as she protected her little sister.

However, there's still time for people to put forward outstanding citizens from their communities.

There are three main awards up for grabs: Outstanding Citizen, Outstanding Young Citizen and Outstanding Community Project.

There will also be an award for the best project funded by the PCC's Active Citizens Fund.

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said: "This is our chance to say 'thank you' to those people who work to make the West Midlands a better place."

To nominate people, visit westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk website, where further details are available.

Paralympic gold medal winner inspires girls

PARALYMPIC gold medallist Danielle Brown sought to inspire schoolgirls to be leaders in sport during a visit to the region. Around 110 pupils attended the female only event at the University of Wolverhampton's Walsall Campus. Danielle won gold in consecutive Paralympic Games and three World Championships.

Grieving mother is backing seatbelt safety campaign

New centres to help fight hate crime



Councillor Preet Gill, centre, with from left, Sandwell Council's Diane Wright and Aiman Ali, Yemeni Community Association

ALMOST 40 new centres have been created in Sandwell for residents to report hate crime.

Sandwell Council has set up the premises in partnership with police to make it easier for residents of the borough to report incidents.

Council leaders say the authority has a 'zero-tolerance approach' to hate crime and they are 'determined to put victims first'.

Police bosses from the borough have issued calls for victims of hate crime to report incidents so action can be taken.

Staff who run the centres have received training on dealing with hate crime and are ready to help the public.

Councillor Preet Gill, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for public health and protection, said: "We have a zero-tolerance approach to hate

crime and want everyone to know how to recognise incidents and how to report them. We are determined to put victims first, which is why we now have places in the community where people can report these incidents and seek support."

Centres will be located in Cradley Heath, Blackheath, Oldbury, Wednesbury, Tipton, Smethwick and West Bromwich.

SUKHI Atwal knows from tragic personal experience the dangers of not wearing a seatbelt.

Her 12-year-old son Amar was sat unbuckled in the back of a car when it was involved in an horrific crash when a taxi kept going at a give-way junction and smashed into the side of the vehicle.

The force of the impact threw the football-loving schoolboy from the car and he died in hospital two days later from 'devastating' brain injuries.

Now his brave mother, who was not in the car at the time, has agreed to speak out about the importance of wearing a seatbelt as part of a police campaign.

Mrs Atwal will visit schools and speak to drivers and passengers as part of a week-long awareness campaign by West Midlands Police.

Amar was in a relative's Mitsubishi Outlander when it was struck by the Vauxhall Astra taxi in Hollyhedge Road, Stone Cross, in May 2015.

His 12-year-old cousin, who was also in the car, also suffered serious injuries but survived.

Jailed

Taxi driver Nadeem Hussain, 35, from Dudley, was jailed for six years in December for causing death by dangerous driving.

Amar was a footballer with Willemhall-based Sporting Khalsa and attended Queen Mary's Grammar School in Walsall.

Mrs Atwal, from Great Barr, said: "We will never get over the loss of Amar. He was such a bright, intelligent, fun-loving boy. He was an innocent victim of the crash and there is now a huge hole which can never be filled in our lives. Wearing a seatbelt could have saved his life. At the very least it would have given him a better chance of survival."

Magnificent seven as uni among best

THE University of Birmingham is among the top 50 places in the world to study in seven specific subjects.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017 reveal that the city institution is the fifth best university on the planet at which to study sports-related subjects.

This year's ratings put six other subject areas at the Edgbaston-based University of Birmingham in the top 50: Education, English Language & Literature, Linguistics, Theology, Divinity & Religious Studies, Development Studies and Dentistry.

There are a further 18 subject areas at Birmingham that score in the Top 100 globally, including Archaeology, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Anatomy and Physiology, Law, Performing Arts, Psychology and Materials Science.

ASHWOOD NURSERIES

NURSERY | TEA ROOM | GIFT SHOP | MAIL ORDER



Orchid Extravaganza Now On!

Come & see our exotic display of orchids in our House Plant Greenhouse during March & April

Gift ideas for Mothering Sunday

Sunday 25th March

Gift vouchers, luxury fragrances, jewellery, chocolates, fashion accessories, home fragrance, planted & artificial arrangements, gifts for gardeners, greetings cards and lots of beautiful plants!

John's Garden
Charity Open Day
Saturday 18th March
10am-4pm £5 entrance

All proceeds donated to The Beacon Centre
For further information please call us or visit our website



WWW.ASHWOODNURSERIES.COM

Ashwood Lower Lane, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 0AE Tel: 01384 401996
Spring Opening Hours: Mon to Sat 8.30am - 5.30pm & Sundays: 9am - 5.30pm

INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES

Be Inspired ...



NOW STOCKING
A WIDE SELECTION OF
BEAUTIFUL MIRRORS
TO COMPLEMENT YOUR FIRE



Showroom: 404-406 Bearwood Road, Bearwood B66 4EX Tel: 0121 429 3186



Opening Times: Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm
www.inspirationalfires.co.uk

email: info@inspirationalfires.co.uk



SAFELY ACCESS YOUR LOFT!

for only **£399**
Fully Fitted

This price is for a standard height ceiling with an 8ft drop, width 22-30"

Manufactured to ISO 9002 Standard

We provide a convenient and safe way to access your loft.

Each ladder has a 10 year parts guarantee and can be installed in approx. 2-3 hours.

We offer a loft boarding service if required at an additional cost.

JAKES'D LADDERS

The Local Distributor & Installer for **STIRA**
For more information visit: www.stira.co.uk

CALL TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE
T: 01952 282152 or 07817 431505

Fitted within 2 weeks for a service you can trust

For any information do contact us

C&T
Doors & Windows Ltd
Tel: 01902 842706 / 07759 536818
www.candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk
ALL AREAS COVERED
Email: enquiries@candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk

DOORS

COMPOSITE DOORS AVAILABLE

Un glazed/Glazed from £349.00 fully fitted. New Improved 10 point locking system fully reinforced. Many more designs available.

EDWARDIAN CONSERVATORY
3 MTR x 3 MTR
From £4500

Bi-Fold Doors
From £999

French Patio Doors
From £649

Uni apprenticeship course is launched

BIRMINGHAM City University has launched a new Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship programme, with Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd currently recruiting apprentices to join the course in September.

The three-year work-based learning programme offers apprentices the opportunity to achieve a degree in Business Management whilst working, as well as attaining Chartered Manager status and receiving the Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship.

Professor Julian Beer, deputy vice-chancellor, said: "As we thrive to continue growing our economy, we have to make sure that people are equipped with the skills, education and experience they need."

Lucky postcode landed daily prize

SIX happy Stourbridge residents landed the People's Postcode Lottery's Daily Prize yesterday.

Neighbours in Crown-oakes Drive, who play with the postcode DY8 5SQ, scooped £1,000 each. A seventh, who plays with two tickets, doubled their prize to £2,000.

People's Postcode Lottery Ambassador Danyl Johnson said: "I'm delighted for our Stourbridge players for their win. It's always great to see a big group of winners in the same street."

For more information visit www.postcodelottery.co.uk website.

Town hall boost to attract top shows

AN overhaul of Dudley Town Hall could see more shows held at the venue.

Council documents have also stated that the landmark venue could be 'controlled by another organisation'.

Leisure boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "It has always been my ambition to get as much night time economy as day time in Dudley. The town hall needs to be playing its part in this."

"At this stage it would be all in-house managed but there is nothing ruled in or nothing ruled out for the future. Anything that we can do to make the town hall better we will do, as it will be important for growth in Dudley."

Kitchen

"We need a kitchen area there as that will be another opportunity to enhance catering and to be able to hold conferences."

"We want to bring more shows in and have already taken on a dedicated officer to do this."

Dudley Town Hall, built in 1928, is the largest concert venue in the borough.

Jasper Carrott will be bringing his Stand Up and Rock show to the St James's Road venue on April 21 and 22. Comedienne Jenny Eclair visits on May 18 and former members of Eurovision winners Bucks Fizz on June 29.

More than 60 tenants leave doomed tower block flats

MORE than 60 tenants have moved out of four high-rise flats earmarked for demolition by Dudley Council.

A total of 61 residents have moved into new accommodation from Arley, Compton, Wells and Manor Courts in Netherton.

The four tower blocks are set to be knocked down by 2023 in a bid to save money, as the cash-strapped authority deemed them too expensive to keep in operation.

The authority has begun a process to move out all residents and hope to rehome everyone by the end of the year.

But the move has been met with opposition by some residents, who don't want to move out. They made their voices heard at a public meeting last year which saw them put across heated arguments to council officers.

Waiting

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, said: "When we announced plans last year to demolish Arley, Compton, Wells and Manor Courts, we had 194 flats occupied across the four blocks."

"Sixty-one households are now in new homes and 30 are waiting to view a property or sign paperwork for their move."

"For those remaining, we are helping in any way we can which includes sending out weekly newsletters and

if needed one-to-one support advice and information."

Bosses decided the four blocks, which were built in the 1960s, were no longer sustainable, as they needed a minimum of £9.1 million spent in the short term to get them up to standard.

A public notice published in January stated that the tower blocks would be demolished by December 18, 2023, but is looking to rehome everyone by the start of next year.

Among the residents who are against the authority's plans is Rachel Hill, aged 31, who lives in Arley Court.

She said: "I am in the process of moving out, but I don't want to - this has been my home for the last three years. I started from scratch here. I don't want to go. I think the plans by Dudley Council are diabolical. I can't believe it. Some people have been here for years and years."

Fee-fi-fo-fun! Stars back for Grand panto



Doreen Tipton won an award for best panto newcomer at the Grand this year

THERE will be plenty of fe-fi-fo-fun in store at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre later this year as the cast of this year's panto Jack and the Beanstalk was revealed.

Singer Gareth Gates will take the title role as Jack, with 'Queen of the Black Country' Doreen Tipton and Loose Women's Lisa Riley making a return to the Grand's stage.

It comes hot on the heels of Doreen being named Best Pantomime Newcomer in the Great British Pantomime Awards after her first appearance at the Lichfield Street theatre last festive season, when she played the Empress of China in the production of Aladdin.

Dame Trott will be played by Ian Adams and Adam C Booth will also be making a return to the Grand as he takes on the role of Simple Simon. Jack and the Beanstalk will run from December 9 to January 14, 2018.

Last year's panto saw more than 60,000 people visit the theatre, smashing previous box office records and grossing £100,000 more than the previous year's production of Peter Pan.

Make the RIGHT decision this Winter and give RYDALE a ring...

RYDALE

WINTER SALE



Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias and Soffit Boards

Cleaning Services now available to restore all your uPVC products. Guttering and Driveways cleaning available

No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round



Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.



MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON MARCH INSTALLATIONS

FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060 www.rydalewindows.co.uk Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

**Open Weekdays: 9am to 5:30pm
Saturday: 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed**

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews



Call me a cynic but this doesn't seem smart

LAUNCHING the Government's much-vaunted "Midlands Engine" in Dudley, Chancellor Philip Hammond said one of the region's key strengths was that 92 per cent of the UK's population could get to the Midlands within four hours.

Given that he has defined the Midlands as everywhere from Grimsby to the Welsh border, that probably doesn't come as too much of a surprise.

So why did he choose to launch the project in Dudley? Was it to announce a multi-billion rail connection between the town and HS2? A huge retail development to revive the dying town centre? A new media city to rival the one at Salford? Er, not exactly. He said a "smart ticket" system would operate on the railways by 2018, which is great news considering Dudley doesn't actually have a rail service.

He also said there would be more "smart motorways". Call me a cynic, but anything "smart" in the title is usually a euphemism for "doesn't work."

Like the "smart gas meters" which have just been found to have given incorrect readings, or the "smart televisions" which have been hacked by the security services.

Mr Hammond announced an investment of £25 million investment to reduce traffic congestion in the Black Country, which sounds a lot. Until you compare it to the £10 million which is being committed to upgrading the railway station at Birmingham University, or another £10 million on upgrading Symphony Hall.

Same old story there then. And how will the £25 million be used?

"The funding will provide improved access to employment sites and create a safe environment for people to walk or cycle," said the report.

It might be called the Midlands Engine. But for those of us in the Black Country, it looks like we will still have to pedal ourselves.

□ □ □

MIND you, chairman of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership says the Midlands Engine will help "change the face" of the Black Country.

Stewart Towe said: "New build specialist training facilities to support hands-on skills development, new homes for our residents and investment in infrastructure will connect all these fantastic people."

I've no idea what that means, but I presume it's positive.

□ □ □

THAT said, the Chancellor can't really win, can he? For years the Government has been berated for savage cuts, no money for public services. So last week he announced a tax rise, and sparked a mutiny.

It's the old age story. Everybody wants more investment in public services. As long as somebody else foots the bill.

Labour leader is yet another out-of-touch politician



Jeremy Corbyn – who may not be getting the full picture when it comes to his support



No funny business – Lenny Henry gets serious in the latest series of Broadchurch



Eye-opener – A Radio 4 interview with Lord Falconer is illuminating for all the wrong reasons

Corbyn's delusion matches Thatcher's

HUMOUR is a strange thing. It seems to work best when someone else comes a cropper, especially if that person is in a position of authority, and a delicate part of the body is involved. A North Country accent helps, too. This week, a police inspector in Burnley is reported to be recovering after being bitten on the bottom by his own police dog. Sniggering yet?

If you ever doubted the need for more grammar schools, as proposed this week, look no further than Google where you will find thousands of references to "grammar school" including this query from a lady on Mumsnet: "Would my dyslexic child thrive at grammar school?" Proberbably.

FOR the second time since they were issued, I have discovered a lost £5 note in a pocket. I can only conclude that a) the new fiver is thinner than the old one and easier to miss, or b) subconsciously we regard anything plastic as worthless.

THE most I have ever found in a long-unused pocket was a princely £38 on holiday in Devon. There is something wonderfully easily-spendable about money you didn't know you had. Any tales of unexpected bounty in the trouser department, so to speak?

YOU have to admire the sheer imagination that has gone into casting the new series of Broadchurch (ITV). It is a gritty, vince-making cop drama, examining the brutal, humiliating offence of rape. Surprisingly, the cast includes three great comedians: Charlie Higson from the Fast Show, Lenny Henry and Roy Hudd. Higson admits he was "amazed" to get the part of Ian. If this series ends in court, who will hear the case – Judge Rinder?

LONG ago, just before the Thatcher gov-

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



ernment launched the hated poll tax, I met a Tory election candidate who said: "Wherever I go, people tell me the poll tax is the fairest tax they've ever known." It emerged that "wherever I go" was a number of Conservative Clubs he had visited on his campaign trail. So a Tory candidate hears support for a Tory tax from the Tory faithful. I was reminded of him this week when Jeremy Corbyn, apparently unmoved by the nightmare of Copeland and Labour's disastrous polls, warned us not to underestimate support for his party across the country. How can he be so deluded? Probably because wherever Corbyn goes, he hears his loyal supporters chanting "Jeremy!" and applauding his policies. It is easy to kid yourself that the wide-eyed activists you meet are just ordinary folk and that when they chant your name in adulation it is the authentic voice of Britain. It ain't.

SOME Cambridge students recently objected to "cultural appropriation" of national dishes (Jamaican stew, Tunisian rice, etc) on their college menu. A reader writes to tell me he has recently discovered that shepherds pies do not contain real shepherds, and to whom should he complain?

WE are always being urged to support local businesses which explains why Mrs Rhodes and I eschewed McDonald's and Costa this week and lunched at ye olde local teashoppe. I ordered a small coffee and got a large one. I asked for a pain au chocolat and was given a croissant and jam. Mrs Rhodes ordered soup which took 25 minutes to arrive, and then only

after reminding the waitress, who avoided eye-contact. Yes, you don't get service like that from the multinationals.

If you visit a firm's website and a page fails to load, you usually get an Americanised apology on the lines of: "Oops, we've boobed!" So I was charmed a few days ago to have this same problem with the Royal Shakespeare Company website, which responded: "No page! How did that happen? We are indeed an ass-head, and a coxcomb, and a knave, a thinfaced knave, a gu!!" Will would have approved.

FOR a fascinating insight into political thought processes, catch 'At Lunch with Becky Milligan' (Radio 4) in which the reporter buys a meal for Tony Blair's old pal and former Lord Chancellor, Lord 'Charlie' Falconer. His Lordship doesn't want to talk about Blair. He doesn't seem to know what Labour's immigration policy is. Despite being on an apple-based diet for the past four years, he doesn't know much about apples, although he confides that some are red, some are green and others are both red and green. Falconer's only real concerns seem to be his weight and forming another Labour government: "We have to get back in." He doesn't explain why.

AS a rule I would object to my TV licence fee paying for a wealthy politician's lunch. But the Falconer interview was an education, and therefore money well spent. If any future Labour government needs a Minister of Unillumination, Falconer's your man.

ESCHEWED. That's a word I haven't used for a long time. Anyone got a tissue?

TALKING POINT



Annoying holes are driving us all potty!

THERE they are every morning as I drive into work. They are such a pain, and no matter how many stories we carry about them the problem never seems to go away. Yes you may have already guessed what I am talking about – potholes.

No matter how big – and some are VERY big and deep – or small you can be sure that they are doing some damage to your vehicle.

I have, over recent years, had to have suspension work done on my little car and it is coming to the stage when I dread the next MoT because I just know that it will probably fail and the reason will point back to them.

I know that the councils are facing drastic cutbacks, and obviously issues such as social care need to take priority, but this problem is impacting on people's lives. Some of the potholes are so deep that they can literally make your car un-roadworthy, affecting the steering and balancing of the wheels, meaning they are a danger to yourself and other motorists.

I live in a village and travel down country lanes, which obviously do not carry as much traffic as the city centre, but the problems there are just as bad. Maybe this should be reflected in the amount of car tax we pay.

There seems to be plenty of money spent on these sleeping policemen, or speed bumps, whatever you want to call them. I can think of some other words!

Some of them are so high and so close together that they also have an effect on our cars. One lot in Bilbrook did such a lot of damage to a car with a low suspension, that the driver had to find an alternative route to work.

And the many motorists who complained about the height and the number of the ones down Tinacre Hill at Compton now avoid that route altogether. Maybe that was the ideal!

In another area – Goscome – there have been endless complaints about potholes, but nothing done about them.

And I recently read about one roundabout in the Heath Hayes area which has 38 – yes I did say 38 – around it. Unbelievable!

So councils put your hand in your pockets. Forget about more of those annoying speed bumps. Instead put the money to good use and do a proper job of filling in the potholes, not a quick fix job that seems to last five minutes. You know what they say – you only get what you pay for. And at the moment it is the poor motorists who are the ones who are constantly paying out.

From April there will be changes in the car tax rates. I saw on social media the other day a pothole-covered street where one fed-up driver has scrawled in huge letters 'What are we paying our tax for?'

I should think most drivers would echo that sentiment.

SUE ATTWATER

SPRING SALE

UP TO **25% OFF**

- ✓ Open 7 Days a Week
- ✓ Old Buildings Removed
- ✓ Base Laying Service
- ✓ Asbestos Disposal
- ✓ Free Quotations

CONCRETE GARAGE ROOF REPLACEMENT SERVICE

Wooden Sheds

FREE FITTING

FULL TONGUE & GROOVE

Prices from	Delivery Only	Delivered & Fitted
6ft x 4ft	£239	£274
7ft x 5ft	£269	£309
8ft x 6ft	£299	£344

Concrete Garages

FREE FITTING

Fitted prices from

Single Garage 16ft x 8ft	£1599
Double Garage 16ft x 16ft	£3099

Summer Houses

FREE FITTING

Fitted prices from

7ft x 5ft	£599	Without Verandah Without Verandah Includes Verandah
8ft x 6ft	£725	
8ft x 8ft	£789	

Log Cabins & Garden Rooms

VIEW ONLINE

Fitting service available

Wall Log 44mm T&G

Double Glazed

Insulated Options

✓ Huge Range ✓ Made To Measure Service ✓ Lined & Insulated Options ✓ Quality At Competitive Prices

Show site (open 7 days): Tildasley Street, West Bromwich B70 9SJ (Next to Staples)

Visit our website: www.bettabuildings.co.uk

Call us now: 0121 553 4682

We make it **BETTA** BUILDINGS

Contempt shown for people of Halesowen

IS it not now obvious that those 'in office' on Dudley Council have illustrated their complete and utter contempt for the people of Halesowen?

We are informed that the council wish to shut the leisure centre and now, not content with that, they think that the people of Halesowen should take their 'non collectable' waste to Brierley Hill. May I point out that Halesowen generates a great deal of revenue to the coffers of Dudley Council, yet we are being told that we must absorb more cost by taking our rubbish further afield.

We are being told that the leisure centres at both Halesowen and Stourbridge have had their day. The council want to close these and open multi million pound facilities in the wastelands of Lye.

Now, they have decided that the Pool Road car park is some sort of monolith which needs pulling down. What utter rubbish! Interesting that this car park – perhaps one of the most convenient in the town centre – has all of a sudden become a target for those insistent on making Halesowen a waste land.

Doesn't all this ring alarm bells?

Closing the leisure centre, closing the car park, police station and magistrates courts already gone.

May I inform those who would trifle with the people of Halesowen that we have fought our battles before and won – namely the ill proposed 'smelter plant' in the 1970s. More recently the application for industrial development close to junction 3 of the M5. We don't want your interference. Inflict your idiotic plans on some other more amenable population.

STUART FOX
Halesowen

Treatment of disabled gets on PIP

IT was once known as Disability Allowance for both care and mobility for disabled people.

This has now changed and is known as Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

Or, it should be known as the ripping off the disabled benefit, since the Government decided to hand over power to a set up named Capita, to scrutinise and tell numerous lies in their reports when interviewing genuinely disabled people.

Not only my wife but thousands of others up and down the country have experienced this, just to get people off benefits.

Don't you think they ought to look closer to home to see the amount of benefits and handouts they give to the undeserving who come into the country and never pay a penny?

I feel yet again it is another way of ripping off the great British public, especially the disabled.

STEPHEN FELLOWS
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at

Duncan would have been proud of family

FURTHER to your recent article about Duncan Edwards' heroic family member, I believe Duncan had a number of heroic and distinguished relatives, all living in Tipton.

One of his uncles, Laurence Edwards, was married to Cora Edwards, one of my eight aunts. I believe Laurence was an RAF pilot in the Battle of Britain. Cora's brother-in-law, my uncle Jack Brimble, was in the Merchant Navy Atlantic convoys. My father, Cora's brother, took part in the Normandy landings. My cousin, John Brimble was a founder member of the Black Country Society, along with others. John was also instrumental in getting a statue of William Perry erected in the Coronation Gardens. He was awarded an OBE.

Members of the extended family were all proud of Duncan, but he too had an family of which he could rightly have been proud.

MICHAEL CLIFF
Wall Heath

Tip move proposal is nonsense

IT has been announced that Dudley Council is planning to close the tip in Stourbridge and move to another location closer to Brierley Hill.

Councillor Hillary Bills says that houses would be built on the Stourbridge site and by moving to Brierley Hill it would eliminate the queues which are now present at the tip in Stourbridge.

Bearing in mind that if the tip was moved to the new location, it would have to be developed to create a new tip.

Well Hillary, there are two large unused car parks next to the existing Stourbridge tip.

Surely it would be cheaper to enlarge the tip to incorporate these two car parks.

And there are also two entrances to the tip, one of which is not used at present by the public.

I think you should get your thinking cap on again on your proposal.

BOB WHITEHOUSE
Kingswinford

SHEDS & SUMMERHOUSES

HIGH QUALITY, BUDGET COST

END OF AUTUMN SALE , THE LEAVES ARE FALLING AND SO ARE OUR PRICES !!!!!

Remember , Your going to need More Storage Space after Christmas !!!

Be quick, when they are gone, they are gone!

Come and see us before you buy from anywhere else

WE SUPPLY ALL Fencing Products TRADE & PUBLIC WELCOME

Feather Edge Panels	LAP Panels
6ft x 6ft.....£19	6ft x 6ft.....£18
6ft x 5ft.....£18	6ft x 5ft.....£17
6ft x 4ft.....£17	6ft x 4ft.....£16

Concrete Gravel Boards...£8.50
Concrete Post 8ft.....£10

TRADE DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

We also stock all Fencing Products: Panels, Posts & Gravel Boards

Sheds & Summer houses, Unit 4, Stallings Lane DY6 7LG

01384 944115 • 07594 841785

40% OFF
Doors and Drawers
Before 31st March 2017

10% OFF
All New Kitchens,
Bedrooms, Bathrooms
OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED

Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd

UNBEATABLE QUALITY AND VALUE FROM THE BESPOKE SPECIALISTS

Don't Settle for Less

- Kitchens ● Bedrooms
- Bathrooms ● Extensions
- Loft Conversions
- Home Offices

From a door or worktop replacement to an extension

What our customers say...

"Wonderful kitchen, I have already recommended you and would not hesitate to recommend QKM to anyone."

"Can't believe the transformation from start to finish, totally professional."

HOMEOWNERS...

Looking to Sell?
Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay

Just Moved In?
Let us help to transform your property into a dream home

Decided to Stay?
Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential

Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life

At QKM
We are dedicated to offering our customers the finest service within the home improvement market

THE GUILD OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN
Membership No A120074

'We have customers who would be more than happy to show you the excellent standard of work'

Appliances: Neff, Bosch, Rangemaster, Belling, Hotpoint, Stoves and many more

Franke Sinks 50 Year Guarantee

The Largest Working Kitchen in the Midlands at our Netherton Showroom

All types of Flooring supplied and Wet Wall Solutions for Bathrooms

Range of Kitchens, Bedrooms and Bathrooms to suit all budgets

Did you know 80% of our customers are retired?
60% plus of all our appointments are referrals or existing customers requiring further work.

Find out why we are trusted for yourself
BOOK YOUR NO OBLIGATION QUOTE TODAY ON 01384 232413

Head Office & Showroom
149 Cinder Bank, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9BL
01299 877718 | 01384 232413 | 0121 550 4821
Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm, Thursdays 9am - 7pm
Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Customer satisfaction guaranteed.
WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

www.qualitykitchenmakeoversltd.co.uk

FIVE MINUTES FROM MERRY HILL

Angle grinder post office raiders are sent to prison

A GANG who smashed their way into a Stourbridge post office using a sledgehammer and an angle grinder have been jailed for a total of 28 years.

CCTV footage shows sparks flying as crook Simon Phillips used a circular saw on metal shutters at the post office in Wollaston.

Accomplice Terry McMahon then began hammering away at the mangled shutter with a sledgehammer as the masked raiders forced their way in. Along with gang members Adrian Peach and Dennis Carr, they used a crowbar to try to prise open a cash machine.

80 jobs to go at Frankie & Benny's chain

AROUND 80 jobs are set to be axed after the struggling owner of Frankie & Benny's swung to a full-year loss.

The restaurant group posted a pre-tax loss of £40 million in the year to January 1 after being stung with a £117m exceptional charge linked to restructuring efforts.

In August, the firm, which is also behind Garfunkel's, said it would shut 33 under-performing sites as part of strategic review in a move that affected around 1,000 staff.

The group, which has Frankie and Benny's at Dudley, Merry Hill, Walsall and Kidderminster, will now close an additional eight restaurants this year, with around 80 jobs set to go.

Boss Andy McCue said he is 'pursuing a new and focused plan to turn-around and grow the business'. This will include finding efficiency savings including 'reducing overheads, extracting further purchasing benefits from our scale and reducing the number of people we employ'.

But their raid last September was thwarted as the post office manager bravely confronted the men before they fled empty-handed.

The gang sped away in an Audi, which had been stolen in Bromsgrove three months earlier but were spotted by officers responding to the 999 call.

The getaway car was abandoned in Bartley Green, where Phillips, 38, and 33-year-old McMahon were found by officers hiding in a hedgerow. Peach, 29, and 38-year-old Carr were spotted at a block of flats and later arrested in nearby Bucknall Crescent. An angle grinder was recovered from the Audi and clothing used during the raid found in the flats' communal entrance.

Burglary

All four admitted conspiracy to commit burglary at Birmingham Crown Court. Phillips, of Beckbury Road, Weoley Castle, who was out of prison on licence following several disc cutter attacks on ATM machines, and Peach, of Kitwood Avenue, Tamworth, also admitting another shop attack at Snappy Tomato Pizza in Chelmsley Wood on 18 June.

They were jailed for eight years each while McMahon, from Rudyard Grove, Kitts Green, and Carr from Princess Anne Drive, Rubery, were handed six-year terms.

Woman hurt in crash at golf club car park



The above picture, taken by firefighters at Stourbridge Fire Station, shows what was left of the damaged car at the scene

AN elderly woman suffered multiple injuries and her Mercedes car was written off in an accident on the car park at Stourbridge Golf Club.

The 85-year-old was rescued by fire crews after she became trapped inside the vehicle after hitting a tree.

She was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham with multiple fractures, said a fire chief.

Firefighters spent an hour at the scene on Thursday night cutting through the roof of the Mercedes so that paramedics could reach her.

Phil Deeley, watch commander at Stourbridge Fire Station, said crews were alerted to the collision at around 6pm on Thursday.

He said the injured woman was understood to be a member of the golf club. She had just arrived at the venue when the accident happened.

"She'd got out of the car to swipe the barrier to get into the car park but when she got back into the vehicle again, instead of putting her foot on the brake, she mistakenly hit the accelerator and the car shot off," he explained.

"It hit a tree in the car park, trapping her inside.

"Access was difficult because the car was very close to a lamp post, so, due to her injuries, we completely removed the roof," he added.

An off-duty nurse went to the driver's aid, making a tourniquet for her leg to stem the blood loss, while members of staff at the golf club also helped.

Mark Hughes, manager of Stourbridge Golf Club said: "I would like to send out our best wishes to the lady concerned on behalf of the club."

Man who stole to fund drug habit is jailed

A MAN from Dudley who attempted to con Tesco by trying to get a refund with a false till receipt, in order to fund his drug habit, has been jailed for 10 months.

Zafar Mohammed also stole a £400 iPad from Boots in the Merry Hill centre, despite being subject to a suspended prison sentence.

The father-of-one was spotted attempting to hide the electronic gadget under a store catalogue before making a swift exit from the shop.

However, he was quickly apprehended by police, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mohammed was trying to raise money to fund his heroin habit, said Miss Rachel Pennington, defending.

Warnings

However, she said that Mohammed, from Peel Street, Dudley, was now determined to turn his life around and stay out of trouble in future.

Mohammed admitted fraud, theft and breaching two suspended prison terms.

Recorder Brian Bathia said he had little choice but to send him to prison as the Mohammed has been given clear warnings about what would happen if he continued to offend.

Mr Bathia said: "I have a duty to the public and immediate custody is the only sentence I can pass."

World Cup rugby ref is guest at DK lunch

WELSH Rugby Union referee Nigel Owens is to speak at a sporting lunch.

The 45-year-old, who refereed the 2105 World Cup final, will be the guest of Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club on July 21.

The three-course fundraising lunch will be held at the Heathbrook ground, off Swindon Road, Wall Heath, from 11.30am. Tickets are £55 from 07779 923687 or e-mail dkrfjack@btconnect.com

Birmingham
Dogs Home



WANTED
Abandoned faithful companion seeks loving new home. Happy disposition despite neglect. Just wants to give love and be loved.

Please call
0121 643 5211

We have many dogs desperate for new homes.
Please feel free to visit our centre or log onto our website.
www.birminghamdogshome.org.uk
If you cannot rehome you can help us with donations or sponsorship
Catherine-De-Barnes Lane, Catherine-De-Barnes, Solihull. B62 0DJ

THE GREAT SPRING DOLL & TEDDY FAIR
SUNDAY 19th MARCH

Open 10.30 - 4pm
The National Motorcycle Museum
(Junction 6 M42) Birmingham

Up to 90 quality stands of dolls, bears and related juvenilia

ADMISSION £4 CHILDREN FREE **FREE PARKING**

For further information contact Debbie Woodhouse **07973 760881**



sarah's
Rose
garden florist

Spring Candle Event
Sunday 19th March, 10am - 4pm
Our first candle event of 2017

15% off
UK Yankee fragrances, gifts and accessories

Introducing 'Swan Creek and Goose Creek Candles' -
10% off

Beautiful flowers for every occasion, stockist of Yankee Candles and Swan Creek, Goose Creek and Classic Candles

Lots of great ideas for Mother's Day

Order Online www.sarahsrosegarden.co.uk
Or Call **0121 423 3593**

Sarahs Rose Garden 6 College Road, B32 1AB
Delivering smiles across the miles

Spend over £40 and get a **free medium jar** worth £19.99 (limited availability)

Father gives kidney to save son's life



David Salter on his wedding day, second from left, with his father Ian, and his brothers Mark, far left, and Brian

‘EVERYONE would do the same if the person they loved needed it’ – the words of a father who saved his son’s life by giving him a kidney.

Ian Salter, aged 68, put himself forward as a donor when his son David was rushed to Birmingham’s Queen Elizabeth Hospital with kidney failure.

The 44-year-old from Cradley Heath, first discovered he had a problem with his kidneys in 2008. Then in

2014 it became clear that his kidney function was worsening.

David attempted to resolve his problem with alternative treatments, as the idea of dialysis was not something he wanted to consider.

Ian, from Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, said: “I told him I had a spare kidney waiting for him and told him to tell the doctors. If it is you’re family you don’t think about it.”

In March 2016 Ian and David underwent the transplant. Remarkably, David’s brother Mark and half-brother Brian also came forward as potential donors, but further tests revealed that

Ian was the most suitable. Since the operation Ian has recovered well and has given a talk about the transplant and raised money for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham Charity.

David married his fiancée Rosie last summer.

Ian added: “To see him swinging down the aisle with a big grin on his face was incredible. People might say it is brave but everyone would do the same if the person they loved needed it. The key lesson is that donors are really well looked after, you can put yourself forward in complete confidence.”

HagleyKitchens

Beautiful Kitchens & Bathrooms, Designed with Imagination and Skillfully Fitted with Care



“A beautiful new kitchen...”

We are so pleased we chose Hagley Kitchens - for Graham and his team nothing was to much trouble...*Thank you!* **Tony & Beryl Rhead - Halesowen**

“I like magic everything was in place... tiling, electrics, and beautiful appliances... a fantastically designed kitchen. Graham made everything simple” **Audrey Basterfield, Hasbury**

“They gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company.” **Sandra Donnelly, Kingswinford**

“The kitchen of our Dreams, we made so many changes but all was completed with so little fuss... I love showing off my new kitchen to everyone!!” **Norah & Chris Painter, Pedmore**

“A major project completed on time without any problems at all!” **Gill McKenzie, Codsall**



Call Graham Edmonds for your 'FREE', no obligation new Hagley Kitchen's design
07776 207596
or **0121 602 3031**

Guaranteed unbeatable on price

See some of our range of beautiful Modern and Traditional kitchens at: www.HagleyKitchens.co.uk

INSTALLATION • TILING • GAS • ELECTRIC • PLUMBING • BUILDING

HASBURY WINDOWS Ltd.

QUALITY | VALUE | SERVICE



- Your NEW windows will sparkle this Winter
- It's the Best Time of Year to Fit New Windows!

INLITEN FRONT DOOR
in WHITE
From Only
£550
...Including fitting!

INLITEN BACK DOOR
in WHITE
From Only
£490
...Including fitting!

6 FLAT WINDOWS & 2 DOORS
From Only
£2999
...Including fitting AND VAT!

Full Window Wizard Services Available



- Misted Units Replaced
- Broken Hinges
- Door Adjustment
- New Locks Installed

Call for further details
0121 421 7001



- Your local well established business offering top quality products and service
- No payment until completion
- Call us now for a great deal on your new windows and doors
- Visit our showroom
- Deal direct with the owner

It **HAS** to be **HASBURY**



HASBURY WINDOWS Ltd.
QUALITY | VALUE | SERVICE

SHOWROOM OPEN:
Mon-Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm
Sat - 10.00am - 1.00pm
PHONELINES OPEN: 9.00am - 9.00pm

9 Halesowen Road, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 9AA
Telephone: **0121 421 7001 • 0121 421 2104**

TRADE ENQUIRES WELCOME

FENSA
Registered 30179

“We will Beat ANY Genuine Written Quote”



Mother's Day MESSAGE

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Place an illustrated Mother's Day message in the Express & Star
Saturday March 25

ONLY £10
CALL 01902 317 878

Or fill in the coupon below



Write your message here. One word per box

Mother's surname: First name:

Circle the illustration of your choice



For Special Mother

Sender's name: Senders number:

If you have selected an illustrated message, please enclose a cheque for £10, made payable to M.N.A, and send to the address below.

Or place a FREE message in the Express & Star.
Book online at: bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk
using discount code **M100** or complete coupon and send to address below.

Send to: Mother's Day Greetings, Classifieds, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES or call into your local Shropshire Star office. Deadline for messages is 11am, Friday, March 24, 2017.

Express & Star

Wondrous place full of Gold-en memories

Halfway to Paradise
Grand Theatre

BACK in 1996 Colin Gold went on Stars In Their Eyes as Billy Fury. Soon after he received a call from the singer's original backing band The Tornados to tour as a tribute act to Billy.

Now they've been doing it 20 years and the Halfway To Paradise show was back at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton, attracting coahloads of fans from around the country.

The Tornados - John Raynor, Graham Wyvill and Chris Raynor - began backing Fury in the late 1950s. Billy, who came from Liverpool, chose them above the Beatles, who also auditioned for the role.

The Tornados opened the evening with a couple of instrumentals. Gold then appeared and took the audience on a journey back more than 50 years with songs such as Wondrous Place, Maybe Tomorrow, Jealousy and A Thousand Stars.

Charlie Elston, Fury's former musical director, nearly stole the show with a poignant medley on the grand piano featuring When Will You Say I Love You and In Thoughts of You.

That was topped when, courtesy of Gold's sons, his technical crew, took a rare live performance of Fury a couple of years before he died aged just 42 in 1983, and enhanced the film and vocals on a big screen. Gold might have finished with Forget Him but there are still thousands who won't.

TONY ATTWATER



Rising star 12-year-old Lewis Smallman as Billy Elliot at the Birmingham Hippodrome

Ballet boy Billy brilliant with no punches pulled

Billy Elliot

Birmingham Hippodrome

WELL I'll pull no punches over this stunning musical - it is simply knockout!

Billy Elliot - the story of the boy who switched from boxing classes to his true love, ballet - packed the Birmingham Hippodrome and rightly so.

Everything about it was superb, the grit and determination of the miners during the long hard strike days, the way they fought the police, and often each other, but in the end all pulled together to help one little boy pursue his dream to dance.

The audience was also kept on its toes. Would Billy's tough widowed dad really ever accept his younger son as a ballet dancer? In the end there was sheer joy and pride on his face as he watched young Billy perform.

Sprinkled with so many charming risqué lines from the little ones these brilliant youngsters just shone. At one stage when Billy danced the audience was so mesmerised and the applause lasted so long that it brought a temporary halt to the storyline.

THEATRE REVIEWS

To be so talented at such a young age is incredible. I could only watch in awe.

There were tears too as young Billy - played by local lad Lewis Smallman, 12, from West Bromwich - read out a letter from his dead mum, and giggles as one little girl offered to reveal all to Billy. There was a long pause and Billy just said 'No it's OK thanks'. Priceless!

Too many brilliant people to mention them all but I must comment on our own young star Lewis, who on this night took the lead role. His energy and dancing skills were awesome.

I doubt anyone left the theatre that night not still marvelling at what they had just seen. Well done and a very well deserved standing ovation. The shows runs until April 29 if you miss it you will regret it.

SUE ATTWATER

A monster night out with Nigel and friends



Nigel Kennedy - the mercurial bowman with trademark spiked hair showed both his dynamism and deftness of touch

Nigel Kennedy & Friends,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE always irrepressible violin star Nigel Kennedy was in high spirits, even by his standards, for his gala concert at his favourite Birmingham venue after Villa Park.

The audience could hear roars and guffaws from backstage led by the impish 60-year-old (yes, the former wunderkind will qualify for his bus pass in five years) before the concert had even begun.

Maybe it was due to his claret and blue team's 2-0 home victory that afternoon over Sheffield Wednesday but it was certainly also because Kennedy was surrounded by his musical friends, including fellow former students of New York's prestigious Juilliard School of music and one of his violin heroes, the pioneering jazz-rock fiddler Jean-Luc Ponty.

Kennedy took a near sell-out audience on a three and a half hour exhib-

arating musical journey from Bach to Led Zeppelin via the Balkans.

The mercurial bowman with trademark spiked hair showed both his dynamism and deftness of touch in the opening concerto from JS Bach, then came a truly impressive duet with cellist Peter Adams on Halvorsen's Passacaglia after Handel.

For all the fist bumping and joking around, Kennedy is a seriously outstanding violinist who has surrounded himself with some of the best musicians around. He also keeps an eye on the international folk scene and performed alongside Bulgarian musician Georgi Andreev, who is a master of a tear-shaped string instrument called the gadulka.

Kennedy was reunited with two former student pals, fellow violinists Pieter Daniel and Michael Guttman, for Monti's Czardasz and a crowd-pleasing Nessun Dorma, the Three Tenors replaced by the Fiddlers Three.

Jazz violin virtuoso Ponty made a brief appearance early on but really came into his own after the interval. Kennedy duetted with him on the Frenchman's pioneering jazz-rock pieces from the '70s. If I had to pick the best moment of the concert it would have to be Ponty's Cosmic Messenger with Kennedy in awe and admiration of his mentor, and Ponty appreciating Kennedy's thrilling, psychedelic slant on his groundbreaking work.

Kennedy has recently been working with "a Wolves fan, a yam-yam", ie Robert Plant, and that inspired his thunderous version of Led Zep's Kashmir, although singer Cleveland Watkiss was almost drowned out. Kennedy left just before half 11 on a delightfully light note with a swinging Stephane Grappelli-Django Reinhardt number.

It was, in our Nige's parlance, an absolutely monster night.

LEON BURAKOWSKI

Police release images after early hours attacks



People who police want to speak to in relation to the incidents in Stourbridge during the early hours of March 4 CCTV has been released by police after two assaults in Stourbridge that took place in the space of 10 minutes – and saw one victim stabbed.

Police said the people in the CCTV images could be 'key to finding those responsible' for the attacks.

A man was assaulted in the town centre and stabbed three times, before a taxi driver suffered a hand injury after an assault by passengers.

The first incident took place at around 3.30am on Saturday (March 4). Two women and two men – all described as white – attacked a taxi driver before running off along Pedmore Road.

The taxi driver picked up the group on Hagley Road in Stourbridge, and they asked to be dropped off on the

Wrens Nest Estate in Dudley. The group said they had no money so asked the taxi driver to stop at the BP petrol station on Pedmore Road so they could get some cash. When they got back in they said they still had no money, so the driver said he would be taking them back to Stourbridge town centre.

Grabbed

The passengers began to lash out at the inside of the taxi and the driver. His arm was grabbed through the small plastic window inside the cab, resulting in an injury to his hand.

As the driver tried to fend off the attackers, he lost control of his cab and crashed into a stationary vehicle.

The men demanded cash from the driver, before punching him and running away along Pedmore Road.

Police were called out at around

4.10am to reports of an injured 31-year-old man in an alleyway off St John's Road in the town centre. He had been beaten and stabbed after leaving a nightclub at around 3.20am.

He was walking along Hagley Road to get a taxi home when he saw a group of two women and several men, as he walked past them he was attacked and then pursued into the alley where the assault continued.

Detective Constable Simon Cooper said: "These were two really nasty attacks and we are currently investigating the possibility they were carried out by the same group. We have good CCTV images of a number of people we want to speak to in connection with the assaults and we are urging members of the public to get in touch if they recognise any of them."

Call DC Simon Cooper on 101.

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

YOUR CHOICE...FOR A BETTER BATHROOM

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR £3850

90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray
15 SQM Wall Tiles
Tiled Floor
Replacement Shower
New Basin & WC

THIS WEEK'S DISABLED SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in and out of your bath? We will remove the bath and fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle and tile inside, supply a new replacement shower, a folding seat and grab rail

ALL FOR ONLY £2150

We do the lot in 5 days

Extra discount for our retired & disabled customers

We offer a free no obligation home visit and on the spot price within 48 hrs of your call

VAT FREE in Qualifying Cases

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre, Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH
01384 287222

Showroom also at
39 Lichfield Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV11 1TW **01902 861908**
SHOWROOMS OPEN 9am-5pm 6 Days a Week



LAPAL HOUSE

LAPAL HOUSE CARE HOTEL NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

We are always trying to improve our service at Lapal so that we can keep up to our 5 star rating.

At present we are in the process of refurbishment to ensure that there are new wet rooms in our ensuite bedrooms.

Since we last mentioned that new residents can bring their pets with them, we have an addition to the cat of a tortoise, which gives a lot of pleasure to all and some amusement!

Short stay is still on offer to give families a break and grants are available from Social Services provided that the resident fits the criteria.

We have free information for families needing advice on dementia care and general costs for care. There is some free funding from some benevolent funds at times for those prospective residents who have worked for some specific companies in a professional capacity.

Channel 4 are considering doing a six week documentary at Lapal by introducing four year olds to elderly

people, to see how they interact, we await to have confirmation of this.

Our mini bus driver is always looking for new places to visit, if anyone has ideas of suitable places to visit, perhaps you could ring and let us know.

Also we are always looking for volunteers to join us at Lapal and undertake some duties, accompanying residents to hospital and on trips out. We do have an honorarium fund available for this service.

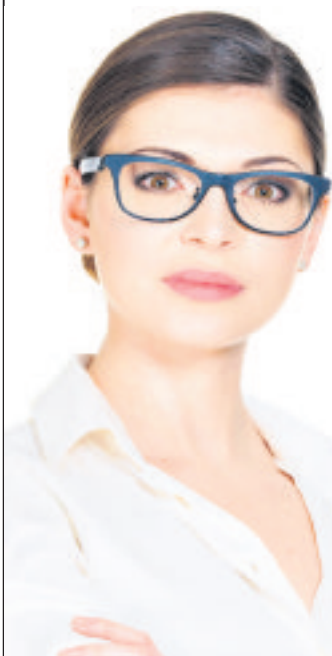
Jazz in the Park this year is 16th July 2017 2 – 5 p.m. and our Jazz Nights continue and anyone interested in becoming a member should please ring Lyn Willetts 0121 550 1272 or email admin@lapalhouse.co.uk.

**Yours sincerely,
Tony Billingham**

P.S. We have one luxury single ensuite available

**Lapal House, Lapal Lane
South, Halesowen. B62 0ES.
0121 503 0326 or
0121 550 1272
www.lapalhouse.co.uk**

Latest Styles, Excellent Quality Outstanding Value



complete glasses

from **£19^{.99}**

varifocals
from **£45^{extra}**

Get Another Pair for just £10

Even on Designer Models!

Direct Specs

WHERE SPECS COST LESS!

**36 Douglas Road
Rowley Regis
Tel 0121 561 4940**

Second pair to same prescription includes single vision lenses. Excludes rimless models.

Issuing gun licences is costing region's police more than £70k

GUN licences are costing West Midlands Police tens of thousands of pounds every year as the force loses £19 every time one is issued.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson blamed the Government, saying Whitehall had compelled the force to 'subsidise gun ownership'.

On average, it costs the police £19 more to issue a single gun licence than they are allowed to charge the applicant. The fee is set by the Government.

Weddings in showcase at popular venue

COUPLES planning to tie the knot can find out more at an open day at Priory Hall in Dudley on Saturday.

Dudley Registrars are holding their wedding show bonanza, which will include chance to take a look around the Grade-II listed hall, plus a bridal fashion show with gowns available from 1 do 2 Bridal Boutique in Stourbridge. Last year more than 400 people attended the event, which provides the a chance to view the town centre venue and its photogenic surroundings in Priory Park.

Prize

This year's Dudley event will also include a free prize draw to win a Priory Suite wedding at Priory Hall.

Visitors to the free admission event will be able to watch demonstration marriage ceremonies, meet the registrars and chat with exhibitors.

The open day is from 10am to 4pm. For more information call (01384) 815 373.

The West Midlands force forecasts that this year it will issue more than 3,600 gun licences, meaning it will lose out on around £71,000.

As police forces face spending cuts, many senior police officers argue gun licences should be cost efficient and so rise to around £200 a licence.

Britain has around 600,000 private gun licences, which are used by people like farmers, marksmen and others who shoot for sport.

Staffordshire Police, with a larger rural population than the West Midlands, is believed to lose out even more.

Recover

The Home Office increased fees in April 2015 from £50 to £88 for a firearms certificate, and from £50 to £79.50 for a shotgun certificate. Renewal of a firearms certificate now costs £62 – up from £40 – and the fee for a shotgun certificate is £49, also up from £40.

But those were the first increases since 2001 and West Midlands Police says it still does not allow the force to recover the full cost of running the firearms licensing service.

Mr Jamieson said: "This Government has just cut our grant by £6 million but expects us to subsidise gun ownership. This cannot be right."

Lemurs conservation week at park



Hannah Bishton meets a ring-tailed lemur at West Midland Safari Park

A SPECIAL conservation week dedicated to lemurs is taking place at West Midland Safari Park this week.

Protect Lemurs Week began at the weekend and runs until tomorrow (Friday) at the attraction near Bewdley.

The park will raise awareness not only about the threats to lemurs but also threats the only place in the world they are found, the African island of Madagascar.

A variety of activities have been taking place during the week, both at the Park and online. Guests can take part in a free quiz to be entered into a prize draw and there are chances to meet Stanley, the Park's lemur mascot.

All the funds raised during the week will go to the Lemur Conservation Association (AEECL).

Shelley Tudor, deputy head keeper, said, "We decided to support the Lemur Conservation Association as our chosen keeper charity as currently approximately 90 per cent of all lemur species are classified as threatened with extinction. This is mainly due to illegal logging, agriculture and being hunted for food and for the pet trade."

"As these animals are only found on Madagascar it is vital that we do all we can to support the charity, working to help set up eco-tourism programmes, assist with ecological research and community-based conservation."

"As all activities being held during Protect Lemurs Week, some of the staff will be taking part in a sponsored assault course on Monday at Conkers in Derbyshire, dressed as Lemurs."

Trainees on the road to new careers

HIGHWAYS England is looking to take on more apprentices and graduates in the West Midlands to help deliver major new projects in the next five years.

Chief executive Jim O'Sullivan spoke of the importance of young recruits to Highways England during National Apprenticeship Week on a visit to its regional control centre at Quinton.

Mr O'Sullivan, who started as an apprentice aircraft mechanic and ended up as the chief engineer for Concord, said Highways England had a big presence in the region with a flagship site at the Cube in Birmingham.

Bridges

He said Highways England would play a big part in delivering the Midlands Engine's transport improvement projects as well as major schemes already in the pipeline including the M6 Junction 10 scheme.

It involves two new bridges and increasing the motorway from two to four lanes.

"A huge scheme is also planned for Birmingham Airport, the NEC, and HS2 at Junction 6 of the M42," Mr O'Sullivan added.

To find out more visit findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk website.

Have cake and eat it too at major NEC show

CAKE International will be returning to Birmingham's NEC this weekend.

The renowned cake show will host the world's largest display of competition pieces, demonstrators and industry experts from across the globe.

Cake International will take place from today (Friday) to Sunday, from 9.30am to 5.30pm over the three days. Tickets start from £12 for adults and are available from www.cakeinternational.co.uk website.

Star Reader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Your Chronicle
in association with
Omega
The Travel Association
ABTA

THE FLYING SCOTSMAN
on The Bluebell Line

Departing Wednesday 19 April 2017

Price Includes...

Quote Code: **NDR350**

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star south-east area hotel with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast
- ✓ Journey on the Bluebell Line hauled by Flying Scotsman, and return transfer from hotel
- ✓ Free time in Windsor

2 days, by coach

only **£149**^{pp}

View product online at

www.omega-holidays.com/NDR350

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

Quote Code: **EDK229**

EMMERDALE VILLAGE
and Studio Experience & Harrogate
Departing Saturday 3 June 2017

Price Includes...

✓ Overnight at a 3 or 4 star Yorkshire area hotel with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast

✓ Guided tour of the Emmerdale TV village on Saturday

✓ Timed admission to The Emmerdale Studio Experience on Sunday morning

✓ Free time in Harrogate and Haworth

2 days, by coach

only **£169**^{.95pp}

View product online at

www.omega-holidays.com/EDK229

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

*Please note: Not all pick up points are available on all breaks.

For more information or to book, please call:

01902 902165

Organised by Omega Holidays plc,
ABTA V4782.

OPENING TIMES:

MON-FRI 8.30-19.00

SAT 8.30-16.00

SUN 10.00-16.00

Sunbeach Holiday Park, Llwngwril, Gwynedd, Wales, LL37 2QQ
t: 01341 250263
e: sunbeach@allenscaravans.com

Massive Complex Refurb with Indoor Pool & Splash Area, Soft Play, Games Room, Adventure Playground, Shop, Restaurant and Bar.

Also on Park is a Boat Park, Own Beach and it's Open 11 Months

www.AllensCaravans.com

Better roads and relevant skills to fire up the engine

THE Midlands will see road improvements and youngsters equipped with relevant skills as part of a £392 million Government scheme to fire up the region's economy, said Chancellor Philip Hammond during a visit to Dudley College.

He has announced a range of plans as part of the 'Midlands Engine Strategy'. For the Black Country there will be £25m for reducing traffic congestion and improving roads, while £11m has been earmarked for a programme of investments in high value manufacturing.

The Black Country Garden City project, offering thousands of new homes on brownfield sites across the region, will receive £12m. Further education colleges are in line for a £7m investment, while £11m will be spent on providing work coaches to boost jobs prospects for the unem-

ployed. Birmingham Symphony Hall will get a £10m extension.

Mr Hammond highlighted connecting local manufacturing tradition with technological advances. He said: "You will see the benefits straight away in terms of investment in infrastructure projects, including road improvements, removing congestion points that hamper industry and business from operating effectively and efficiently.

"The investment in the future of our young people and the budget announcements I made about technical education in this country are going to be particularly important to an area like this that has got a lot of engineering based businesses. That means bringing through young people that have the relevant skills to keep these engineering businesses at the cutting edge."



Philip Hammond with Dudley College principal Lowell Williams during his visit to launch the Midlands Engine

Views are sought on community forums

RESIDENTS can have their say on how community forums are held in Dudley at the next round of meetings.

Dudley Council is carrying out a review of the 10 community forums, including how often they run and the funding opportunities available for community groups.

The authority wants to make sure people continue to have access to their councillors.

All meetings start at 6.30pm. Today (Thursday): Halesowen North and Halesowen South at Halesbury School, Feldon Lane; Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge Town at Our Lady and All Saints, New Road, Stourbridge. March 20: Amblecote, Cradley and Wollescote, Lye and Stourbridge North at Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks; Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South at Lutley Community Centre, Brookwillow Road. March 21: Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley at Kingswinford Royal British Legion Club; Netherton, Woodside and St. Andrews and Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood at Savoy Centre, Northfield Road, Netherton.

Transgender fell runner jailed after stabbing

A FORMER champion fell-runner has started an 18-year jail term for a "frenzied" knife attack on an athletics official.

Lauren Jeska, a transgender athlete from Powys, left Ralph Knibbs with life-threatening stab injuries after taking two knives to his office at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium in March last year.

Sentencing Jeska, aged 42, of Machynlleth, Judge Simon Drew QC said her crime had been a "cool, calculated attack" which had been "wholly unprovoked".

Two of Mr Knibbs' colleagues were also injured after tackling Jeska as she launched what prosecutors called a "frenzied" assault.

Jeska had previously admitted attempting to murder former Bristol Rugby Club centre Mr Knibbs, who was UK Athletics' head of human resources.

On March 22 last year, she drove from her home to Birmingham, calmly signing herself in at the office, before arming herself with two large kitchen knives she had concealed in a rucksack. She then strode into the open-plan UK Athletics office, following the receptionist and seeking out Mr Knibbs before launching a bloody assault in which she repeatedly rained blows down on his head and neck.

Skewer

One eyewitness said Jeska looked "as though she were trying to skewer meat".

Opening the case, Richard Atkins QC, said: "The defendant is a transgender athlete in dispute with UK Athletics about eligibility to compete as a male athlete.

"She had not provided the relevant samples to her testosterone levels and other relevant documentation."

As a result, her racing results had been declared null and void, the court heard.

The week before the attack, Mr Knibbs had gone to meet Jeska at her home to discuss the "long-term" issue with the sporting governing body.

Mr Atkins added that following the incident, Jeska told a psychiatrist "she fantasised about going to the Alexander Stadium and killing all of the staff".

Describing the attack, the prosecution barrister said: "Office CCTV captured what can only be described as a frenzied attack.



Jailed - Lauren Jeska



Victim - Ralph Knibbs

"She lunged and attacked him about the head and neck area using both knives, making repeated attempts to stab him."

Mr Knibbs was caught "completely off-guard", with the 52-year-old recalling the sight of his own blood.

Mr Knibbs himself told the court the "traumatic, life-changing experience" had robbed him of his independence, with long-term nerve damage suffered both in the attack and by necessary life-saving surgery afterwards. He had also suffered a stroke during the assault, resulting in partial permanent sight-loss.

Jeska, who gave no reaction to the sentence, was handed concurrent jail terms after also previously admitting two counts of assaulting Mr Knibbs' colleagues and carrying knives in public. She was given an extended licence of five years, to be served after her release.

WILLIAM & SONS Lounge | Leather | Dining | Living | Bedrooms | Beds

DISPLAY CLEARANCE

■ SAVE UP TO 75%! ■ SOME AT COST PRICE... OR LESS! ■ ALL STOCK MUST GO! ■ NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED!

3 DAYS ONLY, THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY... DON'T MISS OUR MANY INCREDIBLE BARGAINS!

"We urgently need to make room for our exciting new 2017 furniture ranges.

All this weekend we're selling off large quantities of our huge showroom's lounge, leather, living & bedroom display furniture, including beds! These items are so keenly priced they won't stay around for long!"



Classical 2 seater sofa

ONE ONLY **67% OFF**

ALSTONS BURFORD
WAS £1219 SAVE £820
NOW £399

G Plan 2 seater leather sofa

ONE ONLY **66% OFF**

G PLAN BROWNING
WAS £2350 SAVE £1551
NOW £799

Walnut effect dining set

ONE ONLY **75% OFF**

ESSENTIALS NEWBRIDGE
WAS £1009 SAVE £757
NOW £252

Painted ladder cupboard

ONE ONLY **75% OFF**

BAKER SHROPSHIRE
WAS £729 SAVE £547
NOW £182

Complete 5 item bedroom group

ONE ONLY **65% OFF**

JULIAN BOWEN MEMPHIS
WAS £2889 SAVE £1890
NOW £999

Contemporary bed frame

ONE ONLY **60% OFF**

MI-BED MAJESTIC
WAS £1169 SAVE £700
NOW £469

Alstons Baker bargi BUDGET HARRISON HTL KINGSWORTH LEBUS MYERS rauch

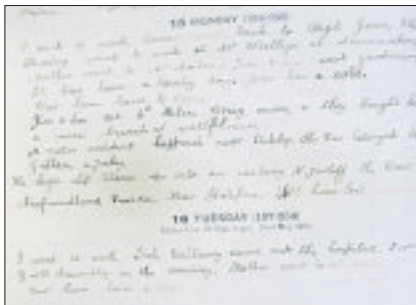
Level Street | Merry Hill | Dudley | West Midlands | DY5 1UA | T. 01384 77444 CLEARANCE TIMES: Friday 10-5.30pm Saturday 10-6pm Sunday 11-5pm

www.williamandsons.co.uk

All offers are subject to availability. Clearance items clearly marked in-store. E&OE



Senior archivist Richard Lewis with metal from the hull of the Titanic



A diary that mentions the sinking on April 15 1912



An image of the fateful ship, which had been labelled as 'unsinkable'

Collection relives fate of 'unsinkable' Titanic

MORE than 100 years on it is a tragedy that still inspires worldwide interest – the sinking of the Titanic.

However not many may realise the fateful ship's connection to the Black Country, which has is being explored in a new exhibition at the Dudley Archives. It runs until May 27.

A collection amassed by keen Titanic researcher and writer Andrew Lound is on display at the Tipton Road venue.

It includes a lifeboat nameplate, the White Star Line's drinks menu, a layout of the first-class accommodation to a piece of Titanic's hull.

The exhibition also includes photographs of the Titanic's 15-and-a-half-ton anchor, which was made by Noah Hingley & Sons in Nether-ton, and drawn through the streets by 20 horses in May 1911.

Andrew, of Great Barr, has sought out the region's connections to the so-called 'unsinkable' ship, which was run by the White

MEMORY LANE

By Judith Hawkins

Star Line, and will be at Dudley Archives on March 25 to sign copies of his book 'Titanic in the Midlands'. Archivist Richard Lewis said: "A lot of these items were in Boston, but Andrew Lound has bought them and had them sent back from America."

"There is a connection with the Midlands. A lot of the metalwork was done here, including the anchor."

The impressive array of artefacts have arrived amid an important time for Dudley Archives, which is becoming the place to see items previously displayed at Dudley Museum, which closed in December.

Mr Lewis added: "It is going really well. Work is almost finished here to accommodate the new collections from the museum."

One of the display's centrepieces is an ornate wooden panel recovered from the sea on April 15,

1912, the morning after the fatal iceberg strike, by the crew of the Irish fishing boat Proinséas Noirin.

Mr Lewis said there was a fascinating tale behind this object, which salt water tests indicate did drift from the wreckage of the Titanic.

It turns out that the passing fishing boat was gun-running for the Irish Republicans, and when they saw the distress flares of the sinking ship they thought their cover would be blown and left the scene, so were not around to assist the survivors.

As a result the crew were unaware of the Titanic's fate, only discovering the truth when they returned home two weeks later, and keeping silent due to their illegal activities.

The collection also includes China plates and platters from the White Star Line, showing the distinction made between first and second class. These include replica dinnerware that was made especially for the blockbuster film Titanic.



Examples of the advertising for the maiden voyage



Replicas of the china used by second class passengers



Richard Lewis with a restored lifeboat nameplate and a third class plate

Star Reader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Quote: JGRT

Your Chronicle in association with

Just go!
HOLIDAYS

TORBAY, LITTLE BOATS & TRAINS OF THE ENGLISH RIVIERA
Mon 22 to Fri 26 May

Your break includes

- ✓ 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the Coppice Hotel, Torquay
- ✓ Entertainment on some nights
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the South Devon Railway
- ✓ Cruise on the River Exe
- ✓ Excursions to Buckfast Abbey, Totnes & Exmouth
- ✓ Optional excursion to Dartmoor & Plymouth (£8.99pp)
- ✓ Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

5 Day Break ~~was £279~~ **now £249**

IRELAND'S WILD ATLANTIC WAY FOR THE SINGLE TRAVELLER
Sun 21 to Fri 26 May

Your break includes

- ✓ 1 night DBB in Mullingar, 3 nights DBB at the Burren Castle Hotel, Lisdoonvarna, 1 night DBB in the Dublin area
- ✓ 3 lunches including the famous Durty Nelly's pub
- ✓ Guided city tours of Galway, Limerick and Dublin with our tour manager
- ✓ Guided tour of The Burren with our tour manager
- ✓ Excursions to Brigit's Garden, Galway, Limerick, Bunratty Folk Park, The Burren, Cliffs of Moher & Dublin
- ✓ Escorted by a tour manager in Ireland
- ✓ Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

6 Day Break ~~was £529~~ **now £489**

WATERFORD, KILKENNY, CORK & IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST
Sun 21 to Fri 26 May

Your break includes

- ✓ 4 nights DBB at the Treacy's Hotel, Waterford
- ✓ 1 night DBB in the Dublin area
- ✓ Entertainment on one night
- ✓ Waterford Treasures Tour
- ✓ Guided city tour of Cork with our tour manager
- ✓ Excursions to Dunbrody Famine Ship, Rock of Cashel, Kilkenny Castle, Cork, Titanic Experience & Dublin
- ✓ Optional locally guided city tour of Dublin (£9.99pp)
- ✓ Escorted by a tour manager in Ireland
- ✓ Return coach travel and ferry crossings from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

6 Day Break ~~was £419~~ **now £389**

SAVE £30 PER PERSON **SAVE £40 PER PERSON** **SAVE £30 PER PERSON**

08432 244 217 **justgohols**
justgoholidays.com/RT [@justgoholidays](https://www.facebook.com/justgoholidays)

Calls to 08 numbers will cost 7 pence per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Calls from mobiles may vary. Single supplements and terms apply

Express & Star

Design an Ad COMPETITION

The Express & Star is challenging local primary schools to design adverts in our 'Design an Ad' Competition.

We need all interested Headteachers/Teachers to register today, using the coupon below or by email, to be included in this exciting competition.

Each school will be given an advertiser by the Express & Star and asked to come up with a ground breaking original ad to feature an 8-page colour supplement, published in-paper on Thursday 27th April 2017.

Winning pupils will be invited to a special presentation ceremony to be held later in the year.

Interested?

Then complete the coupon below to register your school's interest and send to: Jo Watton, Business Development Department, Express and Star Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES or alternatively register via email at j.watton@expressandstar.co.uk

Closing date for registering is Saturday 25th March 2017

Any queries? Phone 01902 319671 or 01902 319134

Register here today!

I would like to register (school's name)

FOR THE DESIGN AN AD COMPETITION

Name.....Position at School

Address of School.....

.....Postcode.....Telephone.....

Signature.....

PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK

Masons lodge £2,500 for the NICE centre



NICE fundraising chief, Louise Watkins and Roger Palmer with, from left, Aran, Jasmine and Louis

A MASONIC lodge has raised over £2,500 for charity over a year of fundraising activities.

Moseley Lodge raised the money for NICE Centre for Movement Disorders, who provide a lifeline to adults and children affected by incurable movement disorders.

Over the course of the last year, Moseley Lodge members have undertaken a variety of fundraising events including a Garden Party, Ladies Evening and Valentines Lunch.

Roger Palmer, a member of Moseley Lodge, said: "I first heard about NICE through a good friend, whose son Will has been helped by the charity since he was three years old.

"We are so thrilled that the money we have raised is going to a local and very deserving charity which really does transform lives."

Louise Watkins, fundraising and marketing manager at NICE, said: "We are delighted that the Moseley Lodge decided to choose NICE as their charity of the year. In order to sustain our life-changing services to individuals in need, such as Will, and their families, we need to raise £500,000 annually and we rely significantly on donations."

Nazi camp survivor, 87, died after two falls

A SURVIVOR of the Second World War concentration camps who escaped Nazi-occupied Poland for a new life in Britain died after falling whilst in hospital, an inquest heard.

Mieczyslaw Kowalski, described as 'tough as old boots' by his family, had been taken to Sandwell General Hospital in West Bromwich after a fall at his home in Ivanhoe Road, Great Barr, on New Year's Day. After a wait in the busy emergency department, he was examined and found to have suffered no serious harm.

But a nurse found him shivering on the floor of his cubicle later that night. A post mortem found he died of pneumonia due to immobility as a result of the falls.

His family told Black Country coroner Zafar Siddique of their concerns of a 'cover-up' because they were not told about the second fall.

The Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust is now changing policy after admitting there was no falls risk assessment for A&E patients.

Mr Kowalski escaped from a concentration camp in his native Poland as an 11-year-old boy, after his

By Marion Brennan

sister died in his arms, and with help of nuns fled to Britain via India, said his son-in-law Michael Cloke. He described the 87-year-old retired factory supervisor as 'an amazingly strong, extremely hard-working man'.

On January 1 his wife heard a thud and found him at the bottom of the stairs of their home. He was assessed as a category 3 patient, to be seen within an hour at A&E. The hospital has acknowledged he should have been seen either immediately or within 10 minutes.

Black Country coroner Zafar Siddique decided against making any special recommendations as the hospital trust had addressed the issues. He concluded that Mr Kowalski's death had been accidental.

Fundraisers brave the heights with abseil

FORMER Miss Black Country Jade Secker stepped right out of her comfort zone to help raise more than £7,500 for charity – and dropped 110ft down the side of Walsall New Art Gallery.

Charity fundraising officer Jade was at the gallery to support the dozens of adrenalin junkies in a daring abseil to raise money for The Haven women's refuge in Wolverhampton and hadn't intended to take part.

But at the last minute she decided she too would take up the challenge to boost the fundraising.

The 26-year-old said: 'It was such a last minute decision this was completely out of my comfort zone.'

"But I thought it was about time I took on a challenge as I spend most of my days encouraging others to do them!

Awareness

"The best part was being able to do it to raise money and awareness for such an amazing charity. Oh, and getting my feet firmly back on the ground."

More than 30 people clambered down the town centre art gallery for the charity at the weekend.

Among them, wearing a very appropriate Superman T-shirt, was 20-year-old Dudley man George Conlan.

He said: "It is the first time I have abseiled off the top of a building, I have done a bit of rock climbing.

"I am alright with heights. It is a bit daunting before you go over the edge. "I quite enjoyed it really, getting to shoot down a building," he added.

Staff from Dolomite Training were on hand to make sure all 34 people made it down the wall safely in an event which saw more than £7,500 was raised.

However, as Jade did join at the last moment she did not have time to get sponsorship beforehand, so anyone



Jade Secker at the start of her impromptu abseil down the gallery

who would like to make a donation can go to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JadeHavenAbseil>

She said: "Those who know me will know how much of a wuss I am and how much it took for me to get myself down that building!"

"I would be so grateful of any donations and I know the charity will too.

"The Haven support women and children who sadly find themselves in such awful situations – no one deserves to be fearful, hurt or even killed by the person that I supposed to love them.

"The Haven supports hundreds of women and children each year to escape abuse and rebuild their lives hap-



Alison Buckingham, Emily Glew and George Conlan, of Dudley, at the gallery

pily and safely. Without support from the community through events like this, they simply wouldn't be able to do this."

Taxi

Meanwhile, in another abseil challenge, Chairman of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association Shaz Saleem took on Fort Dunlop in Birmingham, helping to raise money than £500 for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

The 100ft challenge was an exciting experience for Shaz, who commented: "A huge thank you to every one who has supported me, a great experience for a very important cause."

LATEST BREXIT BUSTING CLEARANCE DEALS! Latifs FOR LOLO PRICES

DOUBLE BED SIZE 2 PLY 'MINK' BLANKET



– SSSP £49.99
LATIFS £14.99!

100% SILK MENS TIE/ HANDKERCHIEF/CUFFLINKS SET



– SSSP £9.99
LATIFS £2.99!

SUPREME EASY CARE BED LINEN POLYCOTTON FLAT SHEETS – ASSORTED COLOURS



SINGLE – SSSP £9.99
LATIFS £1.99!
DOUBLE – SSSP £14.99
LATIFS £3.99!



EX CHAIN STORE LADIES BLACK SPLIT HEM TROUSER – ASSORTED SIZES

– SSSP £16
LATIFS £4.99!

KALTUN WATER 500ML 12 PACK – SSSP £2.99
LATIFS JUST 99P!



DREAMLAND PAIR OF 300 THREAD COUNT STANDARD PILLOWCASES ASSORTED COLOURS



NOW £1.99 BUY ONE GET ONE FREE!
YES FOUR 300 THREAD COUNT STANDARD PILLOWCASES FOR £1.99!

JW MENS PU LEATHER LINED BELTS



– SSSP £14.99
LATIFS FROM JUST £1.99!

VERTICAL BLINDS AVAILABLE IN CREAM, WHITE BLACK

60CM X 140CM	£17.99	60CM X 240CM	£21.99
90CM X 140CM	£22.99	90CM X 240CM	£27.99
120CM X 140CM	£27.99	120CM X 240CM	£38.99
150CM X 140CM	£34.99	150CM X 240CM	£45.99
180CM X 140CM	£39.99	180CM X 240CM	£49.99
210CM X 140CM	£45.99	210CM X 240CM	£59.99
240CM X 140CM	£49.99	240CM X 240CM	£69.99

DE-LABELLED T-SHIRTS NORMALLY £4.99



LATIFS 99P!

EX CHAIN STORE MENS CREW NECK JUMPERS



ASSORTED SIZES AND COLOURS
NORMALLY £24.99
LATIFS JUST £9.99!

EX CHAIN STORE LADIES CARDIGANS



ASSORTED SIZES AND COLOURS
NORMALLY £24.99
LATIFS JUST £8.99!

SUPREME FULLY LINED CURTAINS (EYELIT/PENCIL PLEAT) ASSORTED DESIGNS



46"X54" SSSP £29.99
66"X54" SSSP £39.99
66"X72" SSSP £44.99

LATIFS £14.99!
LATIFS £19.99!
LATIFS £27.99!

90"X72" SSSP £59.99
90"X90" SSSP £69.99
90"X108" SSSP £79.99

LATIFS £29.99!
LATIFS £34.99!
LATIFS £39.99!

BIRMINGHAM
New Canal Street,
Digbeth B5 5PL

BILSTON
Loxdale Street,
W'ton WV14 0TP

OPENING HOURS
Mon-Wed
9.30am - 6pm
Thurs 9.30 - 8pm
Fri / Sat
9.30am - 6pm
Sun 10am - 4pm
BIRMINGHAM STORE
Sunday opening
11am - 5pm

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE IN STORE FOR DETAILS. PICTURES FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY

0800 00 92 555

www.latifs.co.uk

OPEN TO PUBLIC! NO MEMBERSHIP!

WHILE STOCKS LAST

THIEVES have been criticised by the Bishop of Dudley after churches were targeted by raiders stealing silverware used for Holy Communion.

The Bishop of Dudley, the Rt Rev Graham Usher, says he has been left 'sickened' by the thefts from St Peter's in Cradley and St Paul's in Blackheath.

The gang used an angle grinder to open a safe. The thieves made off with silver items, often given in memory of deceased church members, which are worth thousands of pounds.

Christ Church in Coley was also ransacked last month.

The Bishop said: "I am sickened that three Black Country churches have been burgled this week and cherished Holy Communion silver taken."

"All the churches are serving their neighbours."

Library launch of war stories

A COLLECTION of poems and stories inspired by the Second World War will be launched at Oldbury Library.

The anthology, From Sunrise to Sunset, includes pieces penned by Oldbury area writers. It is being published by the Oldbury Writing Group, which decided to start writing the book together in 2015, which marked the 70th anniversary of the war's end. The launch is on April 22 between 10.30am and 1pm.

FOCUS ON BLACKHEATH & ROWLEY REGIS

New eco-friendly no flame machine for crematorium

A £300,000 machine to disintegrate bodies using eco-friendly chemicals rather than flames will be installed at Rowley Regis Crematorium.

Called the Resomator, it will be one of the first used in the UK, having already started to revolutionise crematorium services in America.

The installation of the new cutting-edge system is the latest part of a £1.3 million revamp of the crematorium off Powke Lane, and will see the bodies of loved ones turned to ashes using water-based chemicals.

The technology is said to speed up the cremation process while producing less harmful emissions.

It works by placing a special wool coffin into the Resomation chamber, and then body tissues are rapidly broken down through hydrolysis in an alkaline solution, leaving pure white bone ash.

This can be returned to bereaved families in an urn as it is following a traditional cremation.

Emissions

The process which takes on average three to four hours, is considered an eco-friendly alternative to traditional cremation because there are no emissions from the facility. The machinery is said to emit no significant noise.

By Judith Hawkins

Sandwell Council's planning officers have now approved the application for the Resomator, although the permit included a condition at the request of Severn Trent Water that satisfactory drainage is provided.

The device is produced in West Yorkshire, but so far only three are in operation, all in America.

Resomation Ltd's founder Sandy Sullivan states: "Over 135 years ago flame cremation offered fundamental change in the way we approached human disposition and some serious convincing was required before it was fully accepted."

"Resomation now offers a new, innovative yet dignified approach which uses significantly less energy and emits significantly less greenhouse gasses than flame cremation."



Actor James Bradley, a former Rowley Regis schoolboy, has landed a film role

Film role for student James, 22

A 22-YEAR-OLD theatre student has landed a starring role in a new film.

Following appearances in TV show Doctors, James Bradley is now set to take on a key part in a psychological thriller from Kevin McDonagh, a Birmingham-based director. His latest work, Cellar Whispers, will see the former Halesowen College student play the son of a woman struggling after the disappearance of her husband.

James, from Oldbury, said: "I will portray an illiterate farm boy. I originally met up with the writer Sheila Evans and her husband Bill back in July."

James' talent was recognised at St Michael's C of E High School, Rowley Regis. After achieving A* in GCSE Drama he studied acting and music at Halesowen College and is now in his first year of studying theatre at the University of Salford.

More than 100 enrol as apprentices

MORE than a hundred people signed up for apprenticeships at an event at Sandwell Council House in Oldbury.

The event saw 109 enrolments on the council's programme to help young people onto the career ladder with apprenticeships both with the council and local businesses.

Rachel Davies aged 20, from Rowley Regis, was at the event. She said: "Today has been very helpful to me. It's opened my mind up to go for my dreams, to never give up and always believe in yourself and achieve more."

More than 200 people came through the doors, plus parents and grandparents supporting young people interested in starting an apprenticeship.

The event saw employers signing up to the Sandwell Guarantee, offering local apprenticeships.

Table top sale at church hall

A CHURCH in Blackheath will be hosting a table top sale on Saturday, April 1.

The event will be hosted by St Paul's Church and takes place at the church hall, in Vicarage Road, from 10am until 12pm.

There will be more than 20 tables of goods for visitors to browse during the morning event and admission to the sale will be just 20p.

Proceeds from the sale will go in aid of church funds.

S & N Hodgkins (Jewellers)

ON SITE WORKSHOPS FOR clock, watch and jewellery repairs



- ✓ Watches
- ✓ Bracelets
- ✓ Earrings
- ✓ Engraving
- ✓ Rings
- ✓ Necklaces
- ✓ Clocks
- ✓ Watch Batteries and Straps
- ✓ Est. 1969

One Stop Shop For All Gift Ideas...

**151 HIGH STREET, BLACKHEATH B65 0EA
(NEXT TO THE NEW LIBRARY)
TELEPHONE: 0121 559 7156**

British Curry Awards 2007/2008 - Winner of the top restaurant 'UK'
British Fusion - Chef of the Year 2007/2008, Taste of Britain Chef of the Year 2010/11/14
& Businessman Award 2015 awarded by Curry Life Magazine

The Raj Spice

'Your award winning restaurant'

Curry Chef of the Year 2010-2011

- Restaurant of Distinction • Fully Refurbished • Fully Licensed
- Bring Your Own Wine • Fully Air Conditioned

HOME DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

10% DISCOUNT ON ALL COLLECTION ORDERS OVER £10.00

0121 559 5537 / 561 3556

7 Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis, Warley, West Midlands B65 0HG

www.therajspice.co.uk

OPENING HOURS

Sunday - Thursday 5.30pm - 12.30am

Friday & Saturday 5.30pm - 1.00am

THE GUILD OF RESTAURANT EXCELLENCY 2013

We have no other branches



JOHN T. HARRIS

HOUSE FURNISHERS & RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICE



Sherborne

You can relax with us

Stockist of chairs to make sitting and rising easier

- Divan Beds • Bed Frames
- Mattresses • Ortho Chairs

Recliner Chairs

SALE NOW ON



0121 559 2402

1A Causeway, Blackheath

Now open Saturday 10am-2pm, Weekdays 10am-4.00pm, Closed all day Thursday • Private car park

Call for tougher action after rubbish dumped

THREE lorry loads of rubbish were dumped on a track in private woodland near Stourbridge, leaving the owner with a five-figure clean-up bill.

The tons of commercial pre-sorted rubbish, mainly plastic, was tipped on the track off Bridgnorth Road in Stourton last Tuesday (March 7).

A passer-by spotted the fly-tippers, who not only used the rubbish-filled lorries but also a car to keep watch.

He was chased off by the occupants in the car who came out wearing balaclavas.

The incident was on the opposite side of the road to the Fox Inn on land owned by the Enville Estate.

Assistant estate manager George Williams said: "Someone driving by saw a lorry drive into the gateway so called up our office. The passer-by turned round and parked up in the gateway to take photos, as he did this a group of men with balaclavas chased him off."

On Friday, the Environment Agency inspected the rubbish, which will take several weeks to move. Staffordshire Police was also called to the incident and are investigating.

Mr Williams said the estate, which covers 6,500 acres, is targeted by fly-tippers every week. Instances

range from a lone fridge freezer to 34 tons of commercial waste dumped in 2013.

He said: "Recently the local council has increased the fees to take your household rubbish to the tip, this is only going to increase the amount of fly tipping in the area. The fines have gone up but they are still not deterring people from dumping rubbish. It is a real frustration for land-owners, who are left paying to clear up the waste."

Menace

The Country Land and Business Association (CLBA) has called for stronger action in the wake of the growing fly-tipping menace. The group wants more resources put in to tackling down culprits and reducing council fees to legally dispose waste.

CLBA regional director Caroline Bedell said: "Fly tipping on the scale seen last week is unfortunately the latest in an increasing number of similar incidents.

"This is not an opportunist crime but a highly organised criminal operation and should be treated as such by the authorities, who must use the powers they already have to bring the perpetrators to justice."



The huge pile of rubbish dumped on the Enville Estate, off the Bridgnorth Road near Stourbridge

Chiefs say £12m cut will limit what 'super hospital' can offer

HOSPITAL bosses have admitted that they will not be able to provide all the services planned at the new Midland Metropolitan Hospital if they lose an expected £12 million a year.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust's chief executive Toby Lewis said that they were preparing for a reduction in funding from the region's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

This would be ahead of the opening of the £350 million 'super hospital' in Smethwick.

In a hospital trust report, it suggested that there would be £12 million less a year available in the funding package put forward by the NHS Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG.

Yet this contradicted information from the CCG, which told the Express & Star that it planned to invest £10 million more on hospital and community care in 2017/18 than it did in 2016/17 with the Trust.

At a meeting of the trust's board, Mr Lewis revealed that the latest funding contract had yet to be signed, and highlighted this discrepancy from the CCG. He said that they were now seeking 'urgent clarification' from commissioners to determine whether or not more funding may be available.

Speaking at the trust's board meeting, Mr Lewis said: "We are still not in a place where we've signed a contract, and that's disappointing. The CCG published some financial numbers that I didn't recognise. We've written to the CCG to see if they are revising their offer. We are seeking urgent clarification."

Thousands miss out on bus fare discount

ANGRY councillors have hit out at a bus fare discount for travellers in Sandwell and Dudley, but excludes thousands of people living in the Black Country.

National Express has launched the Sandwell and Dudley ticket, which allows people to buy a day ticket for £3 rather than £4.60 to travel around parts of the Black Country.

However, the boundaries of the offer do not stretch beyond the M5, meaning a large part of Sandwell, including Langley and Smethwick, miss out.

People taking advantage of the offer can save almost £5 a week on bus travel and £14.50 for a four-week pass. Bilston and Darlaston, which are not in Dudley or Sandwell, have been included, to the annoyance of Sandwell councillors.

Anyone living or wanting to travel outside the zone must pay the full amount.

Encourage

The discount offer has been brought in to try to encourage travel between the Black Country towns and in readiness for 18 months of roadworks on the M5.

Transport chiefs hope more people will turn to using buses during major repairs between junctions one for West Bromwich and two for Oldbury.

Councillor Paul Sandars said: "If you have a ticket zone called Sandwell and Dudley it is such a shame around a third of Sandwell is not in there. It is something we need to look into."

Trust's top rating

A BLACK Country mental health partnership has been given top ratings after an NHS staff survey. The survey, which is carried out by an independent organisation Quality Health, ranked Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust as the highest or joint highest scoring specialist mental health trust in 15 areas. Mark Axcell, chief executive of the trust, said: "This year's findings are extremely positive."

Advertisement

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHOWROOM CLEARANCE NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED

- **SOFAS AND CHAIRS MADE TO ORDER - ANY SIZE**
- **FREE HOME DELIVERY**
- **FREE REMOVAL OF YOUR OLD BED**
- **LARGE SELECTION OF FABRIC AND LEATHER SUITES**
- **2 & 3 SEATERS TO CLEAR FROM AN AMAZING £295 VARIOUS COLOURS AND DESIGNS**

- **SUITES • BEDS**
 - **MATTRESSES • SOFAS**
- All reduced to a fraction of their normal price**
NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED
UP TO £1,000 PART EXCHANGE FOR YOUR OLD SUITE



**3 SEATER
SOFA WITH
2 RECLINERS
£395**



**Ottoman
Beds
from £299**
Odd Bases & Mattresses
To Clear
from £69



**DINING TABLE
& 4 CHAIRS
TO CLEAR
£595**
AVAILABLE IN ACACIA
WOOD MATCHING
PIECES
ALSO AVAILABLE



Your chair, designed to fit you from £495
Matching sofas available
1000 fabrics, 100 leathers to choose from

Established 1982

Dreamworld
furniture

Three Piece Suites, Chairs, Beds, Carpets, Dining and Bedroom Furniture

8 Stallings Lane, Kingswinford DY6 7HU

Tel: 01384 295660

OPEN: MON-SAT 10AM - 5PM | SUN 10.30AM - 4.30PM

**LARGE FREE
CAR PARK**



Primary schools to get books on humanism

PRIMARY schools across Shropshire are to be issued with books about humanism as part of an initiative to make children more aware of the philosophy.

The British Humanist Association, which represents non-religious people who ascribe to secular moral codes, is to distribute copies of a book called What is Humanism? to schools across the county.

The book, by Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young, is described as the first book about humanism aimed at children, and features contributions from comedians Stephen Fry and Shappi Khorsandi, (both pictured), novelists Philip Pullman and Natalie Haynes, and physicist Jim Al-Khalili.

The books have been paid for by a crowd-funding campaign by the association, and are aimed at children aged from 10 to 13.

The books will be distributed among 5,000 schools across England, Wales and Northern Ireland this week, but will also be available to other schools on request.

Dr Simon Nightingale, chairman of Shropshire Humanist Group, said humanists were non-religious people who look to science and reason to understand the natural world and who make moral decisions based on empathy and concern for others.

He said the book would support teachers who want to explore non-religious ethics and humanist world views in religious education lessons.

"This is the first time the BHA has distributed a book to primary schools, and for many schools, it will be the first book about non-religious world views in their libraries," he said.

Dr Nightingale, who has given talks about humanism at a number of Shropshire schools including Meole Brace School in Shrewsbury, Burton Borough School in Newport and Telford Priory, said: "Recent surveys have shown that over half the UK population live without religion and among young people it's almost 70 per cent."



"Of those that live without religion, almost all hold basic humanist beliefs, even if they are don't call themselves humanists."

He said it was important that people with faith and those without understood each other better.

Dr Nightingale said he was particularly keen to address the belief that humanists were against religion.

"We support the rights of those with faith to live as they wish and we collaborate with other religions and interfaith groups to promote values we share with most moderate religions," he added.



"Learning about humanism helps children, whether they're religious or not religious, to have a good think about where they get their values from and how they go about making ethical choices."

"A lot of teachers find Humanism to be a really useful perspective to explore in the classroom because it helps pupils to get to grips with big ethical questions and the wide variety of different religious and non-religious world views."

Colin Hopkins, director of education for the Diocese of Lichfield, said it was important that children develop an understanding of different world views and philosophies.

"The vast majority of schools in Shropshire, including Church of England schools, follow the local authority's agreed syllabus for religious education, which covers Christianity and other world religions," he said.

"High quality RE is an entitlement for all children. It's important that children and young people develop an understanding of major world faiths and other philosophical traditions so that they have an informed basis for their own religious commitment or a non-religious perspective on life."



Wake up feeling fully rested in a comfortable bed



Portuguese model Sara Sampaio for Moroccan oil

It's time to stop dreaming about getting more sleep

By Lisa Haynes

DON'T worry if you've failed on the clean eating front; there's a new buzzword for 2017 that doesn't involve chomping on any raw veg to make you look more sprightly...

Step forward 'clean sleeping'. It has nothing to do with how often you wash your duvet, but everything to do with pure, unadulterated slumber.

Another Gwyneth Paltrow 'Goop-ism', the actress-turned-lifestyle-guru attributes her A-list glow to a clean-sleeping regime: "I believe it should be your first priority - even before you think about your diet," she says in her new book, Goop Clean Beauty. "The lifestyle I lead is based not just on clean eating, but also on clean sleeping: at least seven or eight hours of good, quality sleep - and ideally even 10."

With National Bed Month (yes, it's a thing) approaching in March, there's never been a better time to super-charge your beauty sleep...

PRE-DUVET RITUALS

PROBLEM: Can't sleep

We're now getting less sleep than ever, according to research. Three-quarters of Brits (74%) sleep less than seven hours per night, while 12% snooze for less than five hours - compared to 7% in 2013, according to The Sleep Council's Great British Bed-time Report.

"If you're not sleeping, you'll find your stress hormone levels will go up," says Dr Nish Joshi, holistic guru and founder of the Joshi Clinic. "Sleep habits are so important - avoid caffeine and wine at night, sleep in a well-ventilated room, and make sure your bed and pillow are comfortable. I recommend taking chamomile or valerian about half an hour before bedtime, for a restful night."

BEAUTY SLEEP SOS: This Works Limited Edition Deep Sleep Shower Gel, £15 (thisworks.com); Neal's Yard Remedies Goodnight Pillow Mist, £15 (nealsyardremedies.com); Pure Elixir 02 Smart Sleep Supplement, £30 for 30 days (pureskinelixir.com).

THE NIGHT SHIFT

PROBLEM: Won't sleep

If insomnia's not an issue, but there simply aren't enough hours in the day for decent duvet time, your skin could be suffering. Sleep is vital for skin, as it's when cells go into repair mode - creating new ones and removing toxins.

"Lack of sleep can lead to signs of ageing," explains Susan Harmsworth, skincare expert and ESPA founder. "Skin research shows cell regeneration is highest between 12am and 1am, while skin exfoliation and blood flow is increased between 12am and 4am. This is why night-time products are so beneficial for the skin's repair systems."

BEAUTY SLEEP SOS: Sarah Chapman Limited Edition Supersize Skinesis Overnight Facial, £50 from March 1 (qvcuk.com); ESPA Overnight Hydration Therapy, £35 (espaskincare.com); Illuminage Skin Rejuvenating Eye Mask With Copper Oxide,



Sleep habits are so important - avoid caffeine and wine at night and sleep in a well-ventilated room



Estee Lauder Advanced Night Repair Concentrated Recovery Eye Mask

£25 (lookfantastic.com).

RISE AND SHINE

PROBLEM: Can't wake up

Woken up feeling less than refreshed? It's possible your alarm's interrupted a natural sleep cycle, resulting in that groggy feeling and telltale eye bags.

Thankfully, you can fake eight hours' sleep with cheat products and quick-fix massage techniques.

"Reduce puffy eyes by massaging a gentle, healing eye cream in the direction of your lymphatic drainage, moving under the eyes towards the temples," advises Nuriss

skincare expert, Dr Anita Sturnham. "Skincare with antioxidants, such as vitamins C, B and E, will help boost and repair tired and dull-looking skin."

BEAUTY SLEEP SOS: Estee Lauder Advanced Night Repair Concentrated Recovery Eye Mask, from £10 (esteelauder.co.uk); Benefit Eye Bright Instant Eye Brightener, £17 (benefitcosmetics.com); NEOM Energy Burst 100% Natural Eau de Parfum, £49 (neomorganics.com).

BEAUTY BULLETIN

:: SARA'S MANE ROLE

Moroccan oil has appointed Sara Sampaio



Pure Elixir 02 Smart Sleep supplement

as its new Beauty Ambassador. The Portuguese model and Victoria's Secret Angel, who has 4.7 million Instagram followers, says she's been a fan of the haircare brand for years: "Moroccan oil products not only make me look amazing, they make me feel amazing, knowing I'm using only the highest quality oil-infused formulas for my hair and skin."

STEAL OF THE WEEK

Want some budget-friendly bathroom action? Check out Flying Tiger's chic new skincare, with Cherry Blossom Shower Gel and Hand Soap at £2 each from UK stores.

Conductor Bright lives up to name

Kingswinford Ladies Social Circle

THE AGM was held at The Royal British Legion, Kingswinford, on March 3.

Chairman Sheila Evans welcomed all present including a visitor and the visiting choir. Business matters were read and approved including the re-election of three committee members.

Sheila thanked all members for their loyal support during a difficult year when some members had passed away and several others not enjoying good health. Sadly she announced May Raven had passed away in February. The Christmas meeting will be on December 14. Hopefully a trip will be arranged for later in the year.

Entertainment was provided by The Brand Hall choir with their conductor Tracey Bright, whose name is apt. She is extremely vivacious, a skilled conductor, a talented flautist with a delightful voice. Her red shoes sparkled like she did.

During the evening the ladies were entertained with a variety of modern songs and even did The Macarena to the Dum Dum song. Tracey dedicated the Jackson Five song I'll Be There to Audrey Phipps, the Social Circle's late chairman and treasurer who died a year ago and is sadly missed.

The choir was accompanied by guitarist Mike, and he and his wife and other choir members dedicate a lot of their time to working with people with dementia who respond to music.

Two ladies won raffle prizes. The next meeting will be on April 6 at 7.45pm.

Keep fit class follows cinema nostalgia trip



Ladies enjoy their keep fit session in the Cornbow Shopping Precinct in Halesowen

IN February, members were taken back to their childhood days by going to Saturday morning trip with a bag of sherbet dip.

Speaker Ken Sampson gave a talk about the life and times of Norman Wisdom.

On February 25, all the committee and four members of the guild presented a keep fit demonstration in the Cornbow precinct in Halesowen.

The session began at 10.30 and lasted an hour. Ladies wore white T-shirts with TG and Comic Relief logos written on them and red noses painted on in red lipstick and it

Hawne TG

demonstrated how ladies can keep fit and supple as they get older. While they danced and exercised to music, they managed to raise almost £200 for Comic Relief. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The next meeting is on March 20m starting at 7.30pm in the Venue 2 at the Zion Christian Centre, Halesowen. Visitors are always very welcome.

Highgrove visit on the cards

CHAIRMAN Julie Willets welcomed 41 members to the February meeting.

Apologies were read, followed by the minutes of the previous meeting, which were agreed as a true record.

Treasurer Margaret Gregory made it known that donations of £100 had been sent to both Birmingham Children's Hospital and to Acorns Children's Hospice.

Secretary Sue Ward reported that she had already received thank you letters from the two organisations.

Wollaston E TWG

Federation representative Jean Latham gave a detailed account of the January meeting. Sub-section reports followed, one of which mentioned the planned luncheon to visit to Birmingham College of Food on March 29. Visits to High-

grove House and Haden Hill House are on the cards.

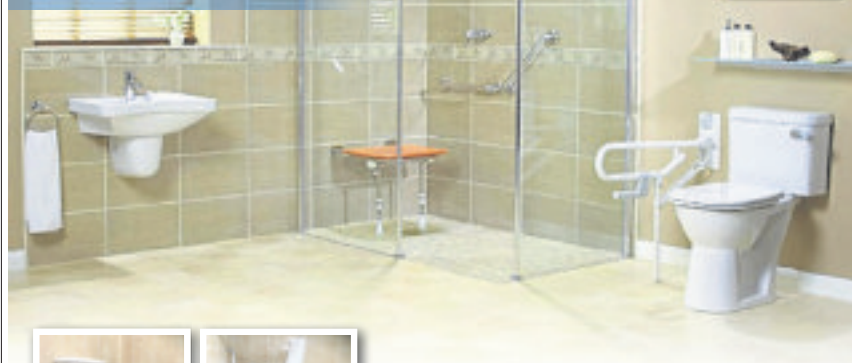
Speaker for the evening was Chris Dych, who gave an interesting talk, augmented with wonderful slides, on a canal journey from Stourbridge to Kinver.

Competition winners were Elizabeth Grove and Hazel Needham, while raffle prizes went to Liz Walker and Judy Cresswell.

The AGM was taking place on March 14.

AID & ADAPT

Convert your home to meet your individual needs



We can convert your existing bathroom or garage to give you a level access shower room to suit your individual needs

Other services include:

- Grab rails supplied and fitted
- Ramped access
- Door widening
- Raised toilets, supplied & fitted
- Local authority approved contractor

FULLY INSURED

For a friendly, no obligation quotation
Call 07870 164001 or 01384 258912

Geoff Hill Ltd

GAS AND ELECTRICAL SUPERSTORE

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
TEL : 01384 395852
www.geoffhilltd.co.uk
 7 High Street, Amblecote, Stourbridge
 West Midlands, DY8 4DE

MARCH MADNESS

<p>SAVE £20 NOW</p> <p>NOW £229.95</p> <p>OUR BEST SELLING HOTPOINT LARGE 7KG LOAD, 1400 SPIN SPEED, WASHING MACHINE WITH VARIABLE SPIN SPEED & TEMP CONTROLS, was £249.95, SAVE £20 FREE 10YR PARTS GUARANTEE</p>	<p>SAVE £10</p> <p>NOW £189.95</p> <p>BAGLESS UPRIGHT VACUUM CLEANER PLUS STAIN HOSE ONBOARD TOOLS FREE 5YR G'TEE</p>	<p>SAVE £10</p> <p>ONLY £179.95</p> <p>8KG LOAD CONDENSER TUMBLE DRYER WITH MANUAL TIMER CONTROL, PLUS HIGH AND LOW HEAT SETTINGS WAS £189.95, SAVE £10</p>	<p>7KG LOAD</p> <p>ONLY £149.95</p> <p>7KG LOAD VENTED TUMBLE DRYER WITH MANUAL TIMER CONTROL, PLUS HIGH AND LOW HEAT SETTINGS</p>	<p>BEST PRICE</p> <p>NOW £239.95</p> <p>10 PLACE SETTINGS, PROGRAM PROGRESS INDICATORS 4 RATED FREE 10YR PARTS G'TEE</p>	<p>SAVE £50</p> <p>NOW £249.95</p> <p>V6 ABSOLUTE LIGHT WEIGHT STICK VACUUM CLEANER FREE 2YR G'TEE</p>
<p>BEST BUY</p> <p>ONLY £59.95</p> <p>600W COMPACT MANUAL TIMER CONTROL MICROWAVE OVEN WITH TOUCH CONTROL AND GLASS TURNTABLE SILVER/WHITE/BLACK</p>	<p>SAVE £30</p> <p>NOW £399.95</p> <p>60CM WIDE GAS DOUBLE OVEN COOKER WITH PROGRAM TIMER CONTROLS, PLUS GLASS FOLDING LID WAS £429.95, SAVE £30</p>	<p>PRICE</p> <p>ONLY £54.95</p> <p>LIGHT WEIGHT BAGGED VACUUM CLEANER WITH VARIABLE SUCTION AND METAL TUBES FREE 2YR GUARANTEE</p>	<p>SAVE £20</p> <p>NOW £199.95</p> <p>1600 SPIN SPEED 8KG LOAD CAPACITY WASHING MACHINE WITH VARIABLE TEMPERATURE CONTROL WAS £219.95, SAVE £20</p>	<p>GREAT PRICE</p> <p>ONLY £299.95</p> <p>60CM WIDE, 1700W TALL, FROST FREE FREEZER WITH FOUR FREEZER DRAWERS AND GLASS SHELVES PLUS DOOR STORAGE</p>	

Found Cheaper Elsewhere ? We Aim Not to be Beaten, Just Give Us a Call !

WE DELIVER TO STOURBRIDGE, KIDDERMINSTER, DUDLEY, HALESOWEN, WOLVERHAMPTON, STOURPORT, GORNAL, SEDGLEY, BILSTON, BRIDGNORTH, ROWLEY REGIS, HAGLEY, BROMSGROVE, OLDBURY, CRADLEY HEATH, QUINTON, WOMBOURNE, WEST BROMWICH, PENN, REDDITCH, BEWDLEY, KINGSWINFORM, WALLHEATH, HIMLEY, TIPTON AND MANY MORE AREAS. SUPPLYING THE WEST MIDLANDS FOR OVER 50 YEARS

MANY MORE MARCH MADNESS DEALS TO BE FOUND INSTORE OR ONLINE

Colour in the garden helps set the mood

Award-winning garden designer Tom Massey tells Hannah Stephenson how colour in the garden can alter your mood, ease negative emotions and lift spirits

A SPIRAL of colour is the theme top designer Tom Massey has taken on in his latest show garden which displays the way gardens can enhance your mood and help your wellbeing.

Research shows the therapeutic value and feeling of wellbeing that people get from gardening, according to Thrive, the charity that uses gardening to help people living with disabilities or ill health, or are vulnerable or isolated. But colour can also make an impact.

Massey, 31, was inspired by zen gardens and Japanese designs to come up with his Perennial Sanctuary Garden – to be shown at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show in July – and has done much research on how the colour and form of plants can change your mood.

At the outer edge of his showpiece, the vibrant red colours represent the inner chaos that can come from being at crisis point.

As the visitor takes the journey into the garden following a winding gravel path, sounds from outside the garden fade.

The planting becomes taller and more immersive and the colour scheme moves through stimulating yellows and oranges to more restful purples, blues and finally, pure green.

Towards the middle of the design the planting is simplified, leading to a calm sanctuary at the centre of the garden.

Here the planting changes to a single species of towering bamboo that screens the outside world, creating a safe haven and place for peaceful reflection, hidden from view.

But you don't have to create a show garden to generate a positive atmosphere in your outside space.

The use of a particular palette to generate a mood can be replicated in many gardens, according to Massey.

"Red is a very stimulating colour – it's eye-catching, it can mean passion, danger and warning, but ultimately it's an exciting colour," says Massey, who uses 'Pani-Sanguisorba' 'Tanna', 'Crocosmia' 'Hofffire' and 'Panicum virgatum' 'Shenandoah' to enliven and uplift in his own show garden.

"Red comes to the fore if you want a vibrant bed."

Orange hues spark enthusiasm, fascination, happiness and creativity, combining the energy of red and the happiness of yellow.

If you prefer an orange palette, you might try 'Achillea millefolium' 'Terracotta' and 'Kniphofia uvaria' 'Nobilis'.

Yellow is the colour of sunshine, associated with joy, happiness and intellect and produces a warming effect, arousing cheerfulness and stimulating mental activity, says Massey.

It's an optimistic, positive colour and plants in this band include 'Helianthus annuus' and 'Inula helenium'.

Purple is associated with wisdom and dignity.

Plants in this band include 'Veronicastrum virginicum' 'Fascination' and 'Miscanthus' 'Purpurascens'.

Lilac and lavender shades also have a restful quality.

Blue is often associated with depth and stability, symbolising trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence and calm.

Plants in this band include 'Panicum virgatum' 'Heavy Metal' and 'Phlox' 'Blue Paradise'.

Bright colours tend to look more vibrant in sunny settings, while blue and green palettes can flourish in semi-shaded areas, creating a cool, calm atmosphere.

At the centre of Massey's garden, is the screen of towering bamboo.

The colour palette is pure green, the colour of nature, representing growth, harmony, freshness, stability and endurance.

Green has healing power, it is the most restful colour for the human eye and it has strong emotional correspondence with safety and sanctuary.

"Different forms and textures can be visually exciting and stimulating, but if you have one single species it can create a calming, restful environment," says Massey.

:: The Perennial Sanctuary Garden will be shown at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show from July 3 to 9.



Dwarf Iris in flower. These should be planted in late autumn

Iris can bring a dash of colour to flower beds

BEST OF THE BUNCH - Dwarf iris

THE miniature rockery iris, *I. reticulata*, grows to just 10cm and brightens up scree beds and containers, its flowers in shades of blue with yellow inner markings or orange splashes, emerging before the grassy tufts of leaves around 30cm high. Plant the bulbs at twice their own depth in late autumn in a well-drained, sunny spot, adding grit to the soil to help drainage. Good varieties include *I. 'Harmony'*, which bears deep velvety blue flowers with yellow lines, and *'Blue Note'*, which is violet blue with feather white markings. *I. 'Katharine Hodgkin'* is another to look out for, with its light blue flowers with rich yellow tongues and a maroon fleck.

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT - Early veg

If you want to steal a march on summer, start sowing some delicious crops in your soil border in your greenhouse now and you should be harvesting them long before some of your neighbours. You shouldn't go far wrong if you sow produce which is going to remain under cover throughout its life. Vegetables such as French beans, carrots and baby beetroot are great for this and you'll be harvesting them much earlier than you would

outside. Check on the seed packet that you have a greenhouse variety. With climbing beans, sow two bean seeds per pot and place them on greenhouse staging in a frost-free greenhouse. When they have filled their pots with roots, plant them 20cm apart in the greenhouse border enriched with organic matter and put in a stake between each plant. Make sure you save space for later crops such as tomatoes, which can be planted in late April or May. Baby root vegetables and salad crops including radishes, spinach and lettuce, can also be sown thinly in the greenhouse border.

WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

- :: Harden off autumn-sown cauliflowers which have been overwintered in frames
- :: Regularly check late potatoes you have in store. As sprouts appear, rub them out
- :: In mild, dry conditions, plant out polyanthus
- :: Tidy up pansies and violas in hanging baskets and containers as they come into life for spring
- :: Top dress permanent plantings in tubs
- :: Clean watering cans, seed trays and pots for the season ahead

Moving on towards spring from remnants of Doris

ROSS UNDERWOOD

Head Gardener at Hodnet Hall



I RECALL having a conversation with another gardener earlier this year. We were remarking on how mild the past winter had been.

But this was in January and we both agreed that we could not count on a lucky escape as February was still to come.

February storms seem to have become a norm and the most recent, Doris, was no exception.

The beginning of March brings a kind of cabin fever to gardeners.

They just want to get out there and get on with a bit of an early weeding, soil improvement, seed sowing or the multitude of other tasks which are needed.

One task that I try never to neglect at this time is to re-pot containerised shrubs which live year round in their container.

If they become too congested then it is easy for potted shrubs to languish and then fade.

Shrubs such as camellias should be lifted and handled carefully so as not to damage the buds that they are carrying.

Tease

Try to tease out the more fibrous roots and knock off as much old compost as possible.

You can use secateurs to prune away some of the thickest and most woody ones so as to leave room for the thinner feeding roots that will regrow in the pot.

When you put it back in its home make sure that you water the new compost in so that it settles around the root ball without leaving any air gaps that could lead to the plant drying out.

You should protect the new plants from getting blown over by the wind before they have gotten a secure purchase in their new home.

Sometimes it is no good, we get beaten by the weather whatever our intentions.

That is when it is nice to do two things.

The first is to settle down with some good gardening books.

I have read three recently that have kept my attention and that I would recommend to you.

The first is by Michael and Anne Heseltine (yes THAT Michael Heseltine) and is entitled "Thenford" after the garden that he and his wife have created.

It is a large coffee table sized book, certainly not one to carry around.

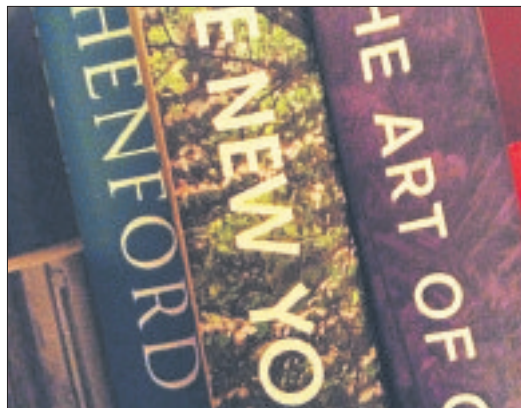
However, it is worth sitting down with as the writing is really very good and the images are excellent.

It is always nice to peer into the gardens of the great and the good to see what they have got that we can't have in our own garden.

There is always a vicarious thrill for good gardeners in seeing something grown well.



Such flowers are now becoming a more common sight as the year progresses



Ross has some top tips for good books to read

My next recommendations cross the Atlantic to the USA which is home to some excellent gardens and in which Chanticleer is among the most renowned.

I first read about it elsewhere but a recent book about it was on my Christmas list.

Magical

The book is rather pretentiously titled "The Art of Gardening".

But as you read on it seems not far from the truth. The gardeners at Chanticleer use plants to as set designer do on stage to conjure magical effects.



Bright coloured flowers are a sign spring is on its way

is to seek out your local gardening club or horticultural society.

Many hold excellent winter lectures by local or visiting gardeners though a good many have suffered a decline in membership.

You might be just what these groups are looking for!

Who knows, you could swap a few gardening books around.

Cheer up – it's almost looking like spring out there!

Homes & Gardens this Springtime

Halesowen Fireplaces AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499
(including fire)



**STORAGE
HEATERS
NOW IN
STOCK**

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds
visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

☎ Telephone 0121 559 9985



Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate,
Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

STOURBRIDGE FENCING & PAVING

- Turfing
- Tree Cutting
- Paving / Slabbing
- Fencing
- Gates
- Garden Sheds Available
- Rubbish Removal

**10%
Discount
for OAPs**

Contact us on 07572 687123



GAS SERVICE & REPAIR

BOILER REPAIR SPECIALIST

- Landlord/Home-owner
Gas Safety Checks •

BOILER SERVICING AT
£45.00 inc. VAT

For more info call Roger on:

07974 653 770 01384 413446

or visit website:

www.blackcountryboilerrepairs.co.uk



FERROLI
WORCESTER
IDEAL
BAXI

VAILLANT
MAIN
POTTERTON
BIASI



DOULTON DOORS

Garage Doors & UPVC Windows & Doors



Our Extensive Range of All Garage Doors
Covers All Popular Brands

We have everything from
Canopy to Side Hung styles

Wrought Iron Gates
& Railings available

PROMOTIONAL OFFER
**CANOPY FRAME
DOORS**
Fitted from JUST
£650
subject to site
survey



Visit Us At **Doulton Trading Est., Doulton Road, Rowley Regis B65 8JG**

Tel: 01384 413331 | 01902 628018

Freephone: 0800 0375179 Mobile: 07721 783291

www.doultondoors.co.uk



DECORATORS WANTED

DO YOU NEED MORE
BUSINESS?
CALL NOW
01902 319191



CLASSIFIEDS

WORK!



ALL INSURANCE WORK UNDERTAKEN
HENDERSON CARDALE GARADOR HORMAN WESSEX

INSULATED REMOTE ROLLER
GARAGE DOORS
UP & OVER GARAGE DOORS
SECTIONAL OVERHEAD
DOORS
SIDE HINGED GARAGE
DOORS
ALL INSURANCE WORK
UNDERTAKEN
HENDERSON, CARDALE,
GARADOR,
HORMAN, WESSEX
FRONT GUARD ENTRANCE
DOORS

B&L Shutters and Garage Doors Ltd

Unit 4 Hainge Business Park, Hainge Road, Tividale, B69 2NU.

Telephone: 0121 557 0260

Email: info@bandlshutters.co.uk www.bandlshutters.co.uk



 0871 911 7011
www.expressandstarshop.co.uk

From £15.99 plus £3.95 P&P

D4454 6ft Scarecrow
pack £19.99 Was £49.99

D9461 3.6ft Scarecrow
pack £15.99 Was £39.99



SAVE UP TO
£30
WAS UP TO
£49.99

Only £16.99 plus £4.95 P&P

D7428 Garden kneeler



**SAVE
£28
WAS £44.99**

From £79.99 plus £4.95 P&P

Collapses down to a comfortable carrying size



SAVE UP TO
£90
WAS UP TO
£199.99



Only £79.99 plus £4.95 P&P

D5942 Electric Pole Chainsaw
D8270 15m Extension Lead
£16.99
D6545 Ear Protectors
£11.99



**SAVE
£50
WAS £129.99**



8am-8pm, 7 days a week. *Calls cost 13p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Quote 70819

Order online at
expressandstarshop.co.uk

Our 'was' pricing refers to the original selling prices offered on our website www.cjoffers.co.uk and in our retail store between 05th December 2016 and 05th March 2017. Allow 7 working days for delivery. If not happy for any reason we will accept return of faulty/unused goods in sealed original packaging for full refund or replacement within 30 days. These goods are sold and supplied by BYG-Group Ltd. with whom you contract when you accept this offer. A SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON DELIVERY.

RETURN TO: EXPRESS & STAR (70819), PO BOX 87, BRECON, LD3 3BE

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____ Initial _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Email _____ Tel. (for queries only) _____

I enclose my cheque/PO made payable to BVG-GROUP LTD for £ _____ Or please debit my card £ _____ ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro Issue No _____

My card number is:

Start date: / Expiry date: / Security Number:

*Midland News Association Ltd and other MNA companies or selected third parties may contact you with details of goods and services you may be interested in. By placing this order you give consent to Midland News Association Ltd or selected third parties doing so, unless you have indicated your objection by ticking this box ☐ if you do not want to hear from selected third parties and ticking this box ☐ if you do not want to hear from Midland News Association Ltd."

PLEASE SEND ME	CODE(S)	SIZES	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
				POSTAGE	£4.95/£3.95
				TOTAL	



HEAVEN SENT: EMELI ON TOUR INSIDE

THE PRIVATE TURMOIL THAT INSPIRED MUSIC

SHOULDER OF MUTTON

65 Birmingham Road, Rowley Regis B65 0HS



**St Patrick's Day
FRIDAY 17th MARCH**

Guinness £2.50 a pint



All sport events shown live

**ENTERTAINMENT
EVERY
FRIDAY
NIGHT
8PM
'TIL LATE**

Selection of Real Ales including:
Bathams, Burton Bridge,
Envile, Holdens,
Wye Valley and many more!



10p back for every £1.00 spent on your loyalty card

JOIN OUR NEW LOYALTY CARD SCHEME
10p back for every £1.00 spent
Ask inside for more details
Terms and conditions apply. Card for illustration purposes only.

SCENIC SCOTLAND £249

5 DAYS
COACH BREAK TO SCOTLAND

LOCH TUMMEL HOTEL
PERTHSHIRE

TripAdvisor
★★★★★

WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY

A 5 day holiday staying at our Loch Tummel Hotel. There will be an excursion everyday including Perth, entrance into Scone Palace, a spectacular journey on the highest mountain railway in Cairngorms, Aberfeldy, Creiff & Pitlochry.

TOUR INCLUDES
4 nights half board. Nightly entertainment. Excursions.

PICKUP FROM
Birmingham, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall

LOCHS.COM
01389 713713



LOCHS & GLENS HOLIDAYS, SCHOOL ROAD, GARTOCHARN, G83 8RW

Welcome to **Pimbleytravel**
LUXURY COACH TRAVEL...
...WITH DOOR TO DOOR PICK UPS

APR 10-14	PAIGNTON - HOTEL BONAIR	£249 HB
APR 17-21	ST. IVES - COTTAGE HOTEL	£285 HB
MAY 14-18	ISLE OF MAN - CHESTERHOUSE HOTEL	£425 HB
MAY 15-19	WEYMOUTH - FAIRHAVEN HOTEL	£325 HB
MAY 15-19	EASTBOURNE - CUMBERLAND HOTEL	£285 HB
MAY 29-JUN 2	WARNERS HOLME LACY	£395 HB
JUN 5-9	LLANDUDNO - FOUR OAKS HOTEL	£279 HB
JUN 12-16	SOUTHSEA - ROYAL BEACH HOTEL	£375 HB
JUN 17-24	SKEGNESS - SAVOY HOTEL	£419 HB
JUN 18-24	JERSEY - MAYFAIR HOTEL	£479 HB
JUN 18-24	GREAT YARMOUTH - NEW BEACH HOTEL	£389 HB
JUN 19-23	CRICCIETH - LION HOTEL	£339 HB
JUN 19-23	TORQUAY - DERVENT HOTEL (DRINKS INCLUSIVE)	£325 HB
JUL 2-8	ISLE OF WIGHT - SHANKLIN HOTEL	£415 HB
JUL 4-8	LLANDUDNO - TYNEDALE HOTEL	£339 HB
JUL 10-14	BRIDLINGTON - MONARCH HOTEL	£299 HB
JUL 10-14	TORQUAY - BELGRAVE SANDS HOTEL & SPA	£365 HB

Tel: 01902 789723 or 0121 369 0233
Web: www.pimbleytravel.co.uk

♥ **ANTIQUE COLLECTORS & VINTAGE FAIR**
UTTOXETER RACECOURSE
(SAT NAV ST14 8BD) A518 / A38 / SIGNPOSTED A50
SATURDAY/SUNDAY
11TH & 12TH MARCH 2017
100 + STALLS INSIDE + OUTSIDE PITCHES
10AM - 4PM ADM.£1.50
CHILDREN FREE
PLENTY OF FREE PARKING
ANTIQUE FORUM
01782 393660 / 07921659798

WE CATER TO YOUR NEEDS
JJ Catering Services
Call us today!
We will work specifically to your budget
07793 544959
Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jjcaterin/>

Being in the limelight is Heaven for Emeli

She started out on the sidelines. Emeli Sande spend the early part of her career writing hits for other performers. After teaming up with producer/writer Shahid Khan, aka Naughty Boy, she worked on tracks for Alesha Dixon, Chipmunk, Professor Green, Devlin, Preeya Kalidas, Cheryl Cole, and Tinie Tempah.

"I was doing a show in London for 1Xtra and I met this guy called Naughty Boy. We got in the studio and we clicked work wise. We just started writing, not necessarily for me, we just thought 'let's write a pop tune' and experiment. And we wrote the Chipmunk track and I thought nothing of it. Naughty Boy sent it off to Chipmunk who really liked it and wrote his stuff around it."

Sande, however, hankered to be centre stage, rather than in the wings. And her big break came in 2011 when she released her debut single, Heaven. Soon, she was at the top of the charts as Read All About It gave her her first number one hit and she won a BRIT Award for British Breakthrough Act before being flown out to the USA to perform at the White House for President Obama.

TURMOIL

Sande, who plays the O2 Academy in Birmingham on Sunday, had great expectations to live up to when she released her second album last year. And while Long Live The Angels couldn't quite match up to her seven-times debut, Our Version of Events, it reached number two on the chart and earned a gold disc.

"We've been doing a lot of album promotion, radio and TV, packed a lot in. So it's been a bit busy, but all quite fun. Hopefully it was worth it."

But while Sande has enjoyed remarkable success in her professional life, it's taken a toll on her personal life. Her ten year-relationship with Adam Gouraguine, the marine biologist she started dating at 17 and married in 2012, floundered and ended in divorce after a year.

That break-down was the catalyst for Long Live The Angels, which Sande wrote to process the turmoil.

"I knew I had put so much on pause. Travelling around you do that. You put your personal life on hold, so I knew I had to take time off to know myself and what I wanted to do. Towards the end of last year I felt ready to get out there and show the music."

"I didn't feel pressure from the outside. When I write I take myself away and surround myself with friends and musicians, people I love, so any pressure comes from me, nitpicking and making it right. I wanted to make something that was worth four years out and reflected what those years of growth were for me. I wanted to tell a story of survival, that was very honest about the lows and the highs. I wanted to say you can get through it and find self-love, which I found towards the end, that's the message."

Sande's new record tracks her journey through trauma to solitude, from optimism to celebration.

"I feel like the last four years changed me. I'm much more realistic in my view of the world and my place in it. I have grown up a lot. Before I shied away from being independent

Emeli Sande takes centre stage at Birmingham O2 Academy on Sunday



and having responsibilities and being a grown up. As long as you do your job writing songs, everything is done for you, which is amazing, but I needed to learn grown up skills and develop knowledge and independence, self-awareness and identity. Now I'm more confident in what I want to say. It's a cliché, but it's about understanding yourself and your identity. Over this time I stepped into womanhood and adulthood and understood the reality of life. I went on a crash course of life. It was a coming of age."

Sande has finally come to terms with the whirlwind nature of her success. Though she had hoped her solo work would be successful, even she was taken aback.

"Before my first album came out, I wrote with Alicia Keys. She kind of became a big sister. She'd be like, 'You have to schedule personal time'. Because I wasn't that busy, I was like, Well, you're Alicia Keys — but that probably doesn't apply to me. Now looking back, I'm like, Okay, that's why she said it. Even if it feels weird scheduling it in, you have to make sure you do nothing. It's so important that your family and the people you love have your attention, and you're still involved in real life."

"When a label gets involved, and

I wanted to tell a story of survival, very honest about the highs and lows

they want to push your music even to a bigger audience, you have to start keeping up with this pace. I think that unless you're feeling very healthy — mind, body, and soul — you can't get on that racetrack. You have to be so strong, and your personal life has to just be on the back burner. And for me, that was the part I didn't really like. "There's nothing I regret. [But] I did start to feel very tired. I didn't have time to get better as an artist — and you have to live, to have something to write about. [I was] 22, 23 when it all started, and those are such crucial years to get to know yourself, especially going from a girl to a woman."

"I look up to Nina Simone, Janis Joplin, and Joni Mitchell, and the depth of their lyrics, you can tell they'd really been in love and they'd really experienced things. I wanted to do more than [make] something that was selling, I really wanted to make art. I wanted to get very deep. You know, I'd left medical school to do this. I've given up a career that would've been really special to me to do this, so I've got to do it properly."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

Warpaint – Potent quartet



Heads Up for a new direction

It's easy to get the wrong impression about Warpaint, the Los Angeles-based rock band that have become an icon of indie cool and a touchstone for a new generation of women in rock.

The band's studio albums tend to emphasise moody atmospheres: gauzy keyboards, hypnotic harmonies and sinister grooves.

Third studio album Heads Up, released last year, varies that template somewhat with its sinewy beats. The single New Song saw them flirting with pop.

In concert, however, the potent quartet of vocalist/guitarist Emily Kokal, vocalist/

guitarist Theresa Wayman, bassist/vocalist Jenny Lee Lindberg and drummer/keyboardist Stella Mozgawa temper the moodiness with bumped-up tempos and high energy.

Fans will get to experience that when Warpaint play Birmingham's O2 Institute on Wednesday. Of course, confounding expectations has been part of Warpaint's m.o. since the band formed in 2004. And so when the band convened to make Heads Up, they shared a common goal: to make a faster, dance-orientated record.

"We've always had this really jammy, high-energy live show compared to some of our records," Kokal says. "We all love to dance. "We didn't want to take away from the

emotion or the core feeling of what our band is all about, but we wanted to bump the speed up and have a little bit more fun."

"We definitely pay attention to detail and there is a lot going on in our music," Wayman says.

Warpaint spent only four months in the studio making Heads Up, the quickest they've ever made a record.

"We have a tendency to over-marinate on certain ideas," Mozgawa says. "There wasn't a great deal of labouring over things or doing things a million different ways and overdubbing for months."

"I feel really proud of what we made," says Lindberg. "I love the way that it came together so nicely."

No More Heroes, but Stranglers still fit bill



Though propelled into the spotlight by punk rock, The Stranglers were always one of the more accomplished and musically credible New Wave bands of the 1970s.

Their melodic rock sound, with swirling keyboards from Dave Greenfield and JJ Burnell's distinctive rumbling bass, was tied to a fearsome live reputation. More than 40 years on they can still out-rock bands less than half their age.

'The Men in Black' are back on the road again this month and have a gig at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Saturday night.

Following the sell-out success of their Black and White Tour in March last year, the group will this time present the 'Classic Collection' to coincide with the planned re-

lease of the entire Stranglers studio album catalogue from the period 1977-82.

With record-breaking sell-out shows and festival appearances throughout the world, public demand to hear and see The Stranglers has never been so high.

Live dates so far on the tour suggest fans can expect such early favourites as Dagenham Dave, Sometimes, Peaches, Nice 'n' Sleazy, Grip and Down In The Sewer, alongside chart hits Skin Deep, Golden Brown and No More Heroes.

Lead singer Hugh Cornwell left the band in 1990 and now The Stranglers, after a 16-year stint by Paul Roberts, are on to third lead singer, Baz Warne, formerly of Smalltown Heroes.

The Stranglers will also be bringing along special guests as the legendary Ruts DC, former punk heroes for Babylon's Burning and In A Rut, will provide the support.

Other major concerts over the next week include Brit Awards winner Emeli Sandé bringing her Long Live The Angels tour to Birmingham O2 Academy on Sunday. That's the night after the venue's no3 room presents a seven-band bill topped by Wolverhampton's Jump The Shark.

On Thursday (March 23) pop star Olly Murs starts a three-night stint at the Genting Arena.

Two top glam metal rock bands from the 1980s Hollywood scene are coming Wolverhampton Slade Rooms. LA Guns are in concert on Saturday and Love/Hate on Thursday, in between rock fans can catch Finland's Battle Beast, fronted by the formidable Noora Louhimo, on Wednesday.

The Strawbs play Bilston's Robin 2 on Wednesday and Paul Carrack has two nights at Symphony Hall on Friday and Saturday.

Malkovich teetering on brink of madness

The University of Birmingham Chorus and Symphony Orchestra are in concert at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday. Their programme will include the sweeping majesty of Finlandia by Sibelius.

Other classic highlights include Singalong with the CBSO as chorus and orchestra, conducted by Simon Haley, perform Mendelssohn's Elijah on Sunday with tickets available to join the rehearsal that afternoon.

Hollywood star John Malkovich plays a dictator teetering on the brink of madness, standing alone against the Symphony Hall organ, played by Martin Haselböck, in Just Call Me God! on Tuesday evening.



Just gran-d as stage set for Walliams' book

Actor and comedian David Walliams is fast making a name for himself as a children's author in the tradition of Roald Dahl and, one of his latest books to be adapted for the stage, Gangsta Granny, will be at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Wednesday to Sunday.

Young Ben is anticipating a diet of cabbage and boredom when sent to spend time with his gran, but is in for a big surprise. Produced by Birmingham Stage Company, the team behind the much-loved stage versions of Horrible Histories, fans of Walliams' cheeky humour will no doubt delight in the transition from page to stage.



Short Breaks & Holiday

from only **£79!**

SHOWTIME

With inclusive admission to top shows & acts in 2017!

Thriller Live & Historic York

Sat 15 April **£99**

- Coach travel with reserved seating throughout
- One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
- Included visit to historic York
- Free time in Leeds
- Inclusive admission to the late afternoon performance of Thriller Live at the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

2 DAYS

2 DAY SHOWTIME BREAKS

Sat 8 Apr	London & Star Wars Identities at the O2	£99
Wed 26 Apr	Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons	£139
Sat 6 May	Dirty Dancing & Historic York	£129
Fri 12 May	Professor Brian Cox - Live in Liverpool	£119
Sat 13 May	Micky Flanagan - Live	£119
Sat 13 May	The Commitments & Historic York	£119
Sat 13 May	Ken Dodd & Liverpool Special	£99
Sat 13 May	The Crucible - Live in Manchester	£99
Sat 13 May	Solid Silver 60's Tour & Liverpool	£119
Fri 19 May	Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone - Live in Concert	£139
Fri 19 May	Elvis World Tour - Live in Liverpool	£99
Sat 20 May	London & Star Wars Identities at the O2	£99
Sat 20 May	Million Dollar Quartet - Live in Manchester	£99
Sat 20 May	Billy Elliot & Historic Chester	£139

NATIONAL SPORTS

Sensational Sports Breaks....

2 DAY SPORT BREAKS

Sat 15 Apr	Liverpool & Haydock Races - Easter Special	£99
Sat 13 May	Liverpool & Haydock Races	£99
Sat 13 May	Women's FA Cup Final - Wembley	£99
Sat 20 May	FA Vase & FA Trophy Finals - Wembley	£99
Sat 20 May	British Touring Car Championship - Oulton Park	£119
Sat 27 May	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Sat 3 Jun	Doncaster Races & York	£79
Sat 10 Jun	London & Polo In The Park	£119
Sat 1 Jul	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Wed 2 Aug	Manchester United Stadium Tour & Liverpool	£99
Sat 5 Aug	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Sat 5 Aug	Doncaster Races & York	£79
Sat 5 Aug	England v South Africa - Old Trafford	£129
Sat 12 Aug	Liverpool & Haydock Races	£99

Betway Premier League Darts - Live!

Thu 13 April **£99**

- Coach travel throughout
- Reserved seating throughout your break
- One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
- A visit to Liverpool
- Included admission to the Betway Premier League Darts at the Liverpool Echo Arena.

2 DAYS

Explore Europe

Explore the best of Europe....

Sorrento, Rome & Amalfi Coast

Mon 15 May	£779	Mon 10 July	£799
Mon 12 June	£789	Mon 4 Sep	£799

- Coach travel with reserved seating throughout
- Six nights in La Rappella on a dinner, bed and continental breakfast basis
- Overnight stays on the outward and return journey on a bed and continental breakfast basis
- Overnights in both directions in Montecatini and Fuggi on a dinner, bed and continental breakfast basis
- All bedrooms with en-suite facilities
- Day out to magnificent Rome, visit to Pompeii & journey along the Amalfi Coast

4/5/7 DAY EUROPEAN BREAKS

Mon 27 Mar	4 Ostend Special Breakaway	£149
Mon 27 Mar	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The Kyriad	£279
Mon 27 Mar	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The B&B Hotel	£269
Mon 27 Mar	5 Ostend Inclusive	£249
Mon 27 Mar	5 Dutch Bulbfields & Windmills	£269
Mon 27 Mar	5 Rhine & Moselle Inclusive	£239
Mon 27 Mar	4 Disneyland Spectacular at Dream Castle	£339
Mon 27 Mar	5 Ostend Superdeal	£219
Mon 27 Mar	5 Rhine Valley Superdeal	£199
Sun 2 Apr	7 Italian Riviera Inclusive	£369
Sun 2 Apr	7 Rome and Taste of Italy	£349
Mon 3 Apr	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The Kyriad	£319
Mon 3 Apr	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The B&B Hotel	£319
Mon 3 Apr	5 Ostend Inclusive & Paddle Steam	£249

Special Events

Enjoy admission to sensational Special Events.

2 DAY SPECIAL EVENTS BREAKS

Mon 3 Apr	Flying Scotsman Special	£119
Sat 15 Apr	Emmerdale The Tour	£99
Sat 15 Apr	London & The Tall Ships Regatta Easter Special	£119
Sat 22 Apr	Skipton Market & Harrogate Flower Show	£99
Sat 22 Apr	Catswolds Warline 1940's Special	£89
Sat 22 Apr	Emmerdale Studio Experience	£99
Tue 25 Apr	Gino's Italian Escape - Live!	£99
Sat 6 May	York & Emmerdale Village Tour	£99
Sat 6 May	The London Motor Show	£99
Sat 13 May	Hobbycrafts, Stitch & Sew - Live!	£79
Sat 13 May	Abingdon Airshow & Historic Bath	£99
Wed 17 May	Emmerdale Studio Experience	£79
Sat 20 May	Emmerdale The Tour	£99
Sat 27 May	Chelsea Flower Show	£169

London & Kensington Diana: Her Fashion Story

Sun 9 April **£99**

Sun 11 June **£99**

Sun 16 July **£99**

- Coach travel throughout
- Reserved seating throughout your break
- One night dinner, bed and breakfast at the Britannia - International, London
- Free time amongst the sights of London
- Visit to Kensington Palace with admission to Diana - Her Fashion Story

Family Fun

Great breaks for all the family!

Longleat Safari Park Jungle Cruise & Windsor

Sat 22 April	£99	Sat 22 July	£99
Sat 27 May	£99	Sat 12 August	£99
Sat 24 June	£99	Sat 26 August	£99

- Coach travel throughout
- Reserved seating throughout your break
- One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
- Visit to Royal Windsor
- Inclusive admission to Longleat to enjoy a wonderful safari adventure to see the many animals plus a Jungle Cruise across the Lake to see the hippos and gorillas!

2 DAYS

2 DAY FAMILY FUN BREAKS

Thu 6 Apr	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Thu 13 Apr	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Sat 15 Apr	Polar Bears, Penguins & Kingdom of Ice	£99
Sat 15 Apr	Legoland Spectacular	£119
Sat 15 Apr	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Sat 29 Apr	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 13 May	London Zoo & Thames River Cruise	£119
Sat 20 May	Polar Bears, Penguins & Kingdom of Ice	£99
Sat 20 May	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Sat 3 Jun	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 10 Jun	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Sat 10 Jun	London Zoo & Thames River Cruise	£119
Sat 17 Jun	Polar Bears, Penguins & Kingdom of Ice	£99
Sat 24 Jun	Legoland Spectacular	£119

To book go to
nationalholidays.com

formerly Travelstyle
0844 571 4867

PLUS!!! MANY MORE breaks available...

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

CHOICE



Katie Derham

Dame Vera Lynn: Happy 100th Birthday (BBC2, 9pm)
Katie Derham makes use of archive footage and family records to tell the story of how Vera Lynn came to become one of the UK's most well-known musical stars. Vera celebrates her 100th birthday on March 20th, and marks to occasion by reminiscing about her early days in showbusiness, with help from her daughter Virginia. She recalls starting out as Vera Welch in the 1920s, first appearing on stage at the tender age of seven, before charming the nation's servicemen and becoming the 'forces sweetheart' during the Second World War. She also remembers becoming the first British artist to achieve a number one in America in the 1950s.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Football Focus. 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v Italy (Kick-off 12.30pm). 2.25 Live Six Nations Rugby Union: France v Wales (Kick-off 2.45pm). 5.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 5.40 BBC News. 5.50 Regional Programme. 6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong quizzes eight writers – John O’Farrell, Emma Kennedy, Kathy Lette, Kate Mosse, Benjamin Zephaniah, Roger McGough, Terry Deary and Bryony Gordon. (R)
6.45 Let’s Sing and Dance for Comic Relief. Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins present the third round of celebrity performances, as comedienne Miranda Hart, Absolutely Fabulous co-creator Jennifer Saunders, TV and radio host Julian Clary, and comedy actress Tameka Empson form the judging panel. Tonight, former Coronation Street star Sally Lindsay (Shelley Unwin) tackles Slade’s Gum On Your Face, while This Morning showbiz reporter Alison Hammond applies herself to Missy Elliott’s Get Ur Freak On. The One Show’s Angellica Bell, Iwan Thomas, Alex Riley, Michelle Ackelley and Dominic Littlewood offer their take on Lady Gaga’s Born This Way, while Gogglebox duo Steph and Dom Parker step into the roles of Cher and Meatloaf for a rendition of Dead Ringer for Love. Also taking to the stage this evening are comedians Pete Firman and Ellie Taylor, and some surprising special guests.
8.00 Who Dares Wins. Game show in which two pairs of complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject.
8.40 Casualty. Robyn ends up going into labour while accompanying David to his brother’s final resting place.
9.30 Mrs Brown’s Boys. Agnes and the Brown family await the fruits of their fraud after faking Grandad’s death to get a payout. (R)
10.00 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update.
10.20 Match of the Day. 11.45 This Country. 12.10 Film: My Brother the Devil. (2012) 1.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 2.00 BBC News.

BBC2

6.30 Film: Blackbeard the Pirate. (1952) **8.10 Film:** Whisky Galore! (1949) **9.30 Coast. (R) 10.30 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 11.30 Mary Berry Everyday. (R) 12.00 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) 12.30 Film:** Firebreath. (1968) Western, starring James Stewart. **2.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 3.00 Gardeners’ World. (R) 3.30 University Challenge. (R) 4.00 Only Connect. (R) 4.30 Final Score. 5.30 Flog It! (R) 6.30 Wild Ireland: The Edge of the World.** Part one of two. Natural history cinematographer Colin Stafford-Johnson begins a journey along Ireland’s Atlantic coast by exploring the ancient ruins and wildlife of the Skellig Rocks in the south west, where early Christian monks built a monastery 1,500 years ago. He then ventures to the deserted Blasket Islands to witness vast numbers of seals coming ashore to fight, mate and moult during winter. Moving inland, Colin heads to the nation’s highest mountain range in search of the last surviving herd of red deer, before setting off back to the coast on the trail of humpback whales en route to Clew Bay. (R)
7.30 Britain at War: Imperial War Museums at 100. Falklands War veteran Simon Weston marks 100 years since the establishment of the Imperial War Museums by exploring the stories of 10 key items from the organisation’s collection.
8.30 Dad’s Army. The men head off for a weekend at a training camp, but arrive late and hungry after Mainwaring’s map-reading skills are found to be somewhat lacking. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)
9.00 Dame Vera Lynn: Happy 100th Birthday. The former “forces sweetheart” celebrates her 100th birthday by recalling highlights from her career, from first taking to the stage in the 1920s to topping the UK charts in 2009.
10.00 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz with a difference, with guests Sheila Hancock, Jimmy Carr and Jeremy Clarkson joining regular panellist Alan Davies.
10.45 Film: True Grit. (2010) The Coen brothers’ Western, with Jeff Bridges and Hailee Steinfeld.
12.30 Film: Ash Wednesday. (2002) 2.00 This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockor Street. **6.10 Bottom Knockor Street. (R) 6.25 Dino Dan: Trek’s Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek’s Adventures. (R) 6.45 Sooty. (R) 6.55 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.00 Outbods. (R) 7.05 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! **8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School. 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) 9.25 Alphabetical. (R) 10.20 Judge Rinder. (R) 11.20 Rebound. (R) 12.20 ITV News: Weather. 12.30 Film:** Carry On Matron. (1972) Comedy, starring Sid James. **2.15 Off Their Rockers. (R) 2.45 The Voice UK. (R) 4.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v England (Kick-off 5.00pm). 7.30 Ant & Dec’s Saturday Night Takeaway.** The presenter duo’s long-running weekend entertainment revue continues, as Ant and Dec go head-to-head against “professional gigglers” Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby in Make ‘Em Laugh. Scarlett Moffatt teams up with precocious junior hosts Little Ant and Dec to join in the fun, and another lucky fan is given a chance to Winn the Ads.
8.30 The Voice UK. The tension mounts as the singing contest draws ever closer to its conclusion. With the arrival of the quarter-finals, the remaining stars now have the reward of a lucrative recording contract with Polydor Records within sight. However, more live performances await, and coaches Jennifer Hudson, Tom Jones, Will.i.am and Gavin Rossdale will need to help whittle down the number of would-be stars to just eight ahead of the next, penultimate round. As ever, Emma Willis is on hand to provide viewers with access to all the backstage drama and on-stage reactions as events unfold.
10.30 ITV News: Weather. 10.45 Lethal Weapon. Riggs and Murtaugh pursue a violent case featuring a drug cartel, theft and two killings. (R)
11.35 Film: True Grit. (1988) Action adventure sequel, with Sylvester Stallone and Richard Crenna. **1.25 Jackpot247. 3.00 Who’s Doing the Dishes? (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.****

CHANNEL 4

6.20 The King of Queens. (R) 6.45 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.35 Race of Champions 2017. 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 1.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 2.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 2.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 3.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 3.30 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. (R) 4.30 Location, Location, Location. (R) 5.35 Grand Designs. (R) **6.30 Channel 4 News. 7.00 Escape to the Chateau. Dick and Angel decide they will live as self-sufficiently as they can while restoring the chateau, and invest in some chickens to provide them with eggs for breakfast every morning. However, they still have countless problems to deal with, and have only £20,000 left to spend on the project. The chateau is still without either heating or water, while the 59 windows are crumbling. While Dick’s renovations fall behind schedule, Angel is in her element coming up with ideas for what the finished building will look like. (R)
8.00 Penelope Keith at Her Majesty’s Service. The actress visits the Queen’s official Scottish residence and the royal yacht Britannia, and meets the Master of the Royal Household of Scotland and the Royal Falconer. (R)
9.00 Film: Lucy. (2014) Premiere. A courier is kidnapped and forced to become a drug mule. When she is exposed to the experimental chemicals she is smuggling, it boosts her intelligence and reflexes to superhuman levels. She uses her newfound abilities to get revenge on her captors, but as the process continues, she evolves into something more than human. Sci-fi thriller, starring Scarlett Johansson and Morgan Freeman.
10.45 Film: RoboCop. (2014) A critically injured police officer is rebuilt as a crime-fighting cyborg, but struggles to retain free will. Sci-fi thriller remake, with Joel Kinnaman and Gary Oldman.
12.55 Ramsay’s Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) 1.45 Hollyoaks. 3.55 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) 4.50 Kirstie’s Handmade Treasures. (R)**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 10.30 Access. 10.40 On Benefits: Life on the Dole. (R) 11.40 On Benefits: Life on the Dole. (R) 12.35 On Benefits: Life on the Dole. (R) 1.30 Dance Moms. 2.25 Dance Moms. 3.20 Dance Moms. 4.15 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 5.10 Can’t Pay? We’ll Take It Away. (R) **6.10 Can’t Pay? We’ll Take It Away. Paul Bohill and Phil Short must deal with a negligent tenant who fled upon their arrival, while Brian O’Shaughnessy and Kevin Stokes chase a debt of £5,000. (R) **7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles.** The team investigates when a diplomatic service van is hijacked during the transportation of an unknown package from the State Department. Crime drama, starring Chris O’Donnell.
8.00 NCIS. Ducky is assaulted by a mysterious assailant who claims to have information about his long-dead half-brother. Meanwhile, Bishop and Jake discuss the future of their relationship.
8.55 5 News Weekend. 9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend’s games, including Nottingham Forest v Derby County at the City Ground, Leeds United v Brighton & Hove Albion at Elland Road, and Blackburn Rovers v Preston North End at Ewood Park.
10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Action from the weekend’s games in Leagues One and Two, including Sheffield United v Charlton Athletic, and Leyton Orient v Doncaster Rovers.
10.30 Platoon: The True Story. Oliver Stone reveals the real-life events that inspired his Oscar-winning Vietnam War film and talks about the soldiers he fought alongside in the conflict.
11.30 Criminals: Caught on Camera. Nick Wallis discovers how CCTV is helping to bring criminals using weapons to justice, including footage of a raid by a gang on a west London jewellery shop. (R)
12.00 SuperCasino. 2.10 Inside King’s Cross: The Railway. (R) 4.00 Inside Buckingham Palace. (R) 4.50 House Doctor. (R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.40 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)**

DIGITAL

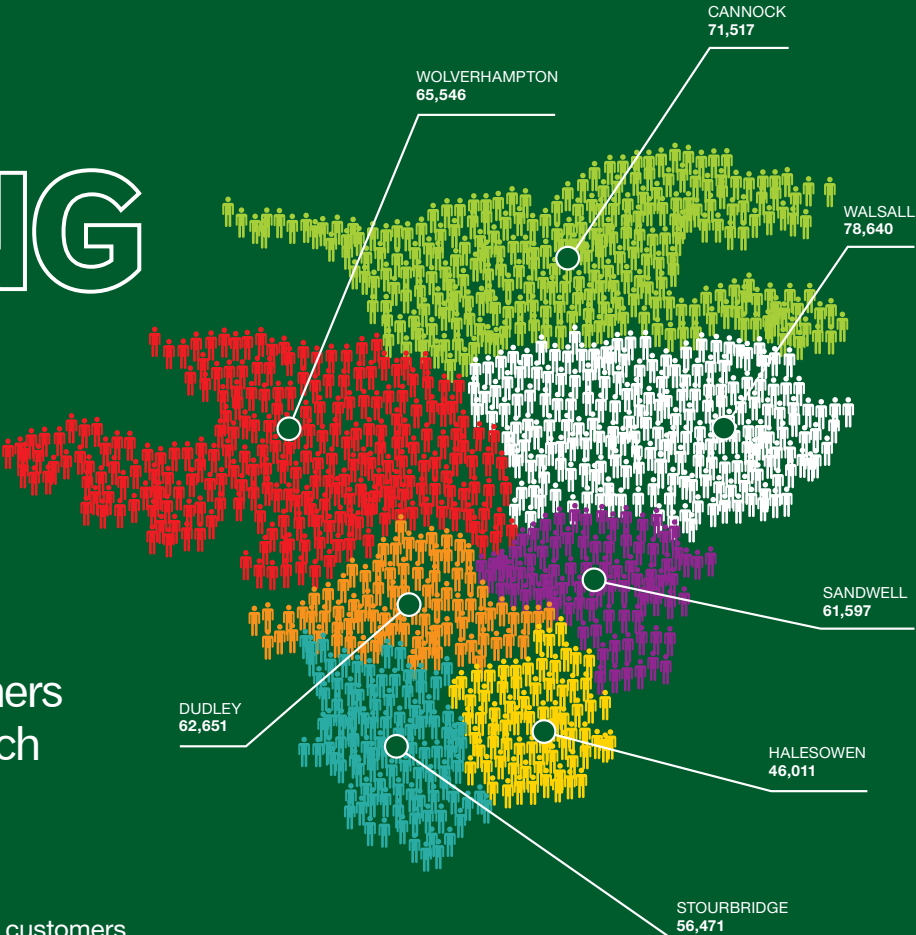
BBC Four
7.00 Britain’s Outlaws: Highwaymen, Pirates and Rogues **8.00 She-Wolves: England’s Early Queens 9.00 Follow the Money 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1983 12.00 Neil Sedaka: King of Song 1.00 Neil Sedaka Says: All You Need is the Music 1.45 Kings of 70s Romance 2.45 Sings Bacharach and David! 3.45 Close**
ITV2
12.55 The Voice UK 2.15 Film: Rumour Has It (2005) **3.15 FYI Daily 3.20 Film:** Rumour Has It (2005) **4.20 FYI Daily 5.25 Film:** Nanny McPhee (2005) **6.15 Film:** Mr Bean’s Holiday (2007) **7.15 FYI Daily 7.20 Film:** Mr Bean’s Holiday (2007) **8.00 Scorpion 9.00 Film:** The 40 Year-Old Virgin (2005) **10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 Film:** The 40 Year-Old Virgin (2005) **11.25 Family Guy 12.55 American Dad! 1.50 Release the Hounds: Famous & Freaked 2.45 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 3.00 Teleshopping**
ITV3
11.00 FYI Daily 11.05 Film: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) **12.00 Hans Christian Andersen; My Life as a Fairy Tale 1.50 Film:** The Great Outdoors (1986) **1.20 Snooker v Darts 1.30 ITV Racing Live** from Uttoxeter and Kempton Park. **4.00 Fierce 5.00 Live FA Youth Cup Football. 7.30 Pawn Stars 7.55 River Monsters 9.00 Film:** Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991) **10.05 FYI Daily 10.10 Film:** Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991) **11.45 FYI Daily 12.05 Film:** Lock Up (1989) **12.45 FYI Daily 12.50 Film:** Lock Up (1989) **2.00 Gunsmoke 2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen**
E4
12.00 Black-ish 1.00 The Goldbergs 2.30 The Big Bang Theory 6.30 Film: The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) **9.00 Film:** The Hunger Games (2012) **11.50 Gogglebox 12.50 Bizarre ER 1.55 Rude Tube 3.20 Marvel’s Agents of SHIELD 4.00 Young & Hungry 4.50 Revenge Film4**
1.00 The Addams Family (1991) 3.05 Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942) 4.25 The Core (2003) 7.10 Paddington (2014) 9.00 Last Vegas (2013) 11.05 Scary Movie 2 (2001) 12.40 In Fear (2013) 2.20 Storage 24 (2012) 4.00 Close

CHRONICLE

REACHING MORE PEOPLE

With over 440,000 potential customers every week, you can be sure to reach your target audience at anytime.

The Chronicle offers an unrivalled platform to reach local customers. To find out how our advertising sales team can help your business call 01902 313131.



CHOICE



Brenda Blethyn

Vera (ITV, 8pm)
New series. The detective investigates when the body of a wildlife ranger is found on a remote island off the coast of Northumberland. Her death is at first assumed to be an accident, since she was alone on the island when she died, but marks on the body seem to point to murder. As Vera delves into the dead woman's personal life, she uncovers dark secrets and old resentments. Brenda Blethyn, Kenny Doughty, Jon Morrison, Christopher Colquhoun, Noof McEwan, Riley Jones, Lisa Hammond and Ewan Stewart star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Flog It! (R) **2.15** Countryfile Spring Diaries. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Lifeline. **3.55** Songs of Praise. **4.30** Shop Well for Less? (R) **5.30** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.
6.00 **The Big Painting Challenge.** Mariella Frostrup and Rev Richard Coles present the final from Greenwich. At Queen's House, the artists are challenged to paint a portrait, but are not told who the subject is until the sitting begins. For the last test of the series, the painters must depict the Old Royal Naval College as seen from the Thames – and mentors Diana Ali and Pascal Anson are not on hand to help this time. Judges Lachlan Goudie, Daphne Todd and David Dibosa assess their efforts and reveal who is this series' champion. Last in the series.
7.00 **Countryfile.** Matt Baker and Anita Rani present the show from the Hoo Peninsula, reporting on the influence of the local "salt shepherds" and efforts to protect the birds that flock to the area.
8.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Burton Constable Hall near Hull, where historic items brought in to be valued include a series of letters written by Florence Nightingale.
9.00 **SS-GB.** Archer and Harry have to get the king out of London, only to realise too late that they have been led into a trap. Barbara faces being deported back to the US. Last in the series.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester City v Liverpool and Middlesbrough v Manchester United.
11.40 **American High School.** The school year draws to a close, but several seniors are at risk of failing. Jalena is given the responsibility of writing a speech for the graduation ceremony. Last in the series.
12.30 The Celebrity Apprentice USA. **1.55** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.00** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** An Island Parish. (R) **7.15** Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) **8.15** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day. (R) **11.45** Simply Nagella. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Film: Day of the Evil Gun. (1968) Western, starring Glenn Ford. **2.30** The House That £100K Built. (R) **3.30** Back to the Land with Kate Humble. (R) **4.30** Ski Sunday Special: Freestyle Ski & Snowboard World Championships.
6.00 **Six Nations Rugby Union.** John Inverdale introduces highlights from the final round of matches in this year's championship, featuring Ireland v England, Scotland v Italy and France v Wales.
7.00 **Robot Wars.** Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon present the third heat. Eight teams battle it out to win a single place in the grand final, pitting robots Foxie, Expulsion, Heavy Metal, MR Speed Squared, Thor, Tauron, Chimera 2 and Concussion against each other in the arena. The show begins with two group battles, followed by a head to head between the two overall winners.
8.00 **Top Gear.** Rory Reid and Sabine Schmitz go in search of the latest supercars at Germany's Nurburgring circuit, while Matt LeBlanc test drives the Aston Martin DB11, but finds George Harris and his Mercedes causing no end of trouble. Tamsin Greig takes to the Top Gear Test Track as this week's Star in a Reasonably Fast Car.
9.00 **Down the Mighty River with Steve Backshall.** Part two of two. The naturalist braves the dangerous white waters the Ballem River's lower gorge and encounters a tribe that has had little contact with the outside world.
10.00 Film: **While We're Young.** (2014) Premiere. A middle-aged man and his wife have their lives turned upside down by their friendship with a younger couple. Comedy drama, starring Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts.
11.35 **Women's Six Nations Highlights.** For the first time, the action from the concluding round of fixtures in this year's competition.
12.05 Film: **Sergeant Rutledge.** (1960) **1.50** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **2.50** Holby City. (R) **3.50** This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Outdoors. (R) **7.05** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ultimate Spider-Man: Web Warriors. **8.20** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.45** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Countrywise: Guide to Britain. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **10.55** Wild Australia with Ray Mears. (R) **11.25** Chopping Block. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **1.30** Off Their Rockers. (R) **2.00** Tipping Point. (R) **3.00** The Voice UK. (R) **5.00** Little Big Shots. (R) **6.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.10** ITV News: Weather. **6.30** **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** The comedian is joined by Mel Giedroyc, Bridget Christie, Eamonn Holmes and Judith Chalmers for the madcap panel show, in which the aim is to save Earth from an alien invasion. (R) **7.00** **Five Gold Rings.** Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield, in which two friends take on a mother and son to identify images on an LED floor while viewers can play along using the series app. **8.00** **Vera.** New series. The detective investigates when the body of a wildlife ranger is found on a remote island. She seems to have been murdered, but was alone on the island when she died. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.20** **The Nightly Show Best Bits.** Highlights of the second week of the entertainment show, with Davina McCall presenting a mix of topical monologues, studio games, celebrity guests, stand-up and video clips. **10.50** **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with ITV News National Editor Allegra Stratton. (R) **11.50** **Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights.** Action from the final at The Stoop, as Saracens or Leicester Tigers faced Exeter Chiefs or Harlequins. Saracens lifted the trophy when this tournament last took place in 2014/15. **12.40** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Cube. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Race of Champions 2017. **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Film: Rio. (2011) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg. **3.25** Film: Johnny English Reborn. (2011) **5.30** Channel 4 News. **6.00** **Dave's Guide to Spending Money.** Dave Fishwick explores whether products are worth the price the public is willing to pay for them. He creates his own range of bottled water, drawn from the tap, and tries to sell it to fashionable restaurants. He also sets up his own renewable power station in his back garden with the goal of generating enough electricity to run Burnley's Christmas lights for free. **7.00** **Our Guy in India.** Guy Martin takes a 1,000-mile journey across India to compete in a race called Rider Mania, the world's largest gathering of Royal Enfield motorbikes. In the first of two programmes, the daredevil rides with a 50-strong biker gang, visits Asia's biggest truck yard and finds himself completely out of his comfort zone. (R) **8.00** **Rivers with Jeremy Paxman.** The presenter travels along the Mersey from the heights of the Peak District to the estuary at Liverpool. He discovers its role in the development of Britain's modern industry and how it has recovered from years of pollution to become a haven for wildlife. He also goes electrofishing for brown trout, scales the river's tallest bridge and investigates the mysterious Mersey Mermaids. **9.00** **Homeland.** While Carrie and Saul present evidence to Keane, Quinn tracks a mark. **10.00** **Gogglebox.** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R) **11.00** **5 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts the popular quiz as Sean Lock and David Mitchell compete against Jon Richardson and Katherine Ryan. The Brett Domino Trio help out in Dictionary Corner. (R) **12.00** Film: The Five-Year Engagement. (2012) **2.10** The Last Leg. (R) **3.05** Scruffs: Britain's Favourite Dog. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.10** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **6.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **6.25** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.50** Rupert Bear. (R) **7.00** Only the Little White Van. **7.05** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **7.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **7.30** Little Princess. (R) **7.45** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.00** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.25** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.40** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.25** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.00** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** The Gadget Show. (R) **1.05** Film: Batteries Not Included. (1987) Sci-fi fantasy, starring Jessica Tandy. **3.05** Film: Zathura: A Space Adventure. (2005) Family sci-fi adventure, starring Josh Hutcherson and Jonah Bobo. **5.00** Film: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2. (2013) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Bill Hader. **6.50** **5 News Weekend.** **6.55** Film: **Left Behind.** (2014) The world is plunged into chaos when millions of people suddenly disappear. An airline pilot tries to save the remaining passengers on his flight, while on the ground, his daughter tries to find out if her mother and brother are among those who have vanished. Fantasy adventure based on the series of novels by Jerry B Jenkins and Tim LaHaye, starring Nicolas Cage and Lea Thompson. Edited for daytime broadcast. **9.00** Film: **Elysium.** (2013) In the future, most of the human race exists in poverty on a ruined Earth, while a wealthy elite live in luxury on an orbiting space station. A man dying of radiation poisoning fights security forces to gain access to the satellite and its medical facilities. Sci-fi thriller from the director of District 9, starring Matt Damon, Jodie Foster and Sharlto Copley. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm. **11.10** Film: **Dark Skies.** (2013) A suburban American home attracts the attention of alien invaders, who wage a campaign of terror against its residents. Sci-fi horror, starring Keri Russell and Josh Hamilton. **12.55** Greatest Sci-Fi Movies. (R) **2.10** SuperCasino. **4.00** Criminals: Caught On Camera. (R) **4.50** House Doctor. (R) **5.15** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Revolution and Romance: Musical Masters of the 19th Century **8.00** Classic Quartets at the BBC **9.00** Heimat Home from Home: Chronicle of a Vision – Part One **10.40** Heimat Home from Home: Chronicle of a Vision – Part Two **12.10** The Century That Wrote Itself **1.40** How to Get Ahead: At Medieval Court **2.40** Classic Quartets at the BBC **3.40** Close **ITV2**
11.00 The Voice UK **1.00** 2Awesome **1.05** 2Awesome: Guidance **1.40** 2Awesome: Fame High **2.05** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **2.30** 2Awesome: LA Story **2.50** You've Been Framed! **Gold** **3.55** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **5.50** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **6.55** Film: Red Riding Hood (2011) **7.55** FYI Daily **8.00** Film: Red Riding Hood (2011) **9.00** iBiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.25** The Vampire Diaries **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**
11.45 Film: The Pure Hell of St Trinian's (1960) **12.45** FYI Daily **12.50** Film: The Pure Hell of St Trinian's (1960) **1.50** Inspector Morse **4.05** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.00** Midsummer Murders **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** It'll Be Alright on the Night **10.00** Rising Damp Forever! **11.05** Film: Good Will Hunting (1997) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** Film: Good Will Hunting (1997) **1.35** Inspector Morse **3.25** May the Best Horse Win **5.05** On the Buses **ITV4**
12.05 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1979) **1.05** FYI Daily **1.10** Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1979) **3.10** Film: Bend of the River (1952) **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15** Film: Bend of the River (1952) **5.00** River Monsters **6.00** Fishing Impossible **7.00** The Big Fish Off **8.00** Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights **9.05** Film: RoboCop 3 (1993) **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15** Film: RoboCop 3 (1993) **11.15** Film: Firefox (1982) **12.15** FYI Daily **12.20** Film: Firefox (1982) **2.00** The Football Mavericks **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **E4**
12.55 Made in Chelsea Does Come Dine with Me **2.00** Black-ish **2.30** The Goldbergs **4.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Film: Adams Family Values (1993) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Film: Die Hard 2 (1990) **12.25** Tattoo Fixers **1.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.30** Gap Year **3.15** Hollyoaks



SALTWELLS INN

“Good Food @ Great Prices”

Food Served Sun-Thur 12 noon - 9pm Fri & Sat 12 noon - 10pm

Sunday 26th March - Mother's Day

3 Course Meal £11.95

Available 12-5pm Booking Essential!

Main Menu Available from 5pm



Tuesday

PIE AND PUD NIGHT
Choose from a Selection of Pies served with Mash or Chips, Peas and Gravy. Includes any pudding from the menu

£6.95



Wednesday

THE BURGER CLUB
Handmade 6oz Burgers Served with different sauces and accompaniments From 5 pm

£6.95



Thursday

CURRY NIGHT
Order any Curry and get a Pint of Carlsberg or Tettleys

FOR JUST £1.00



Friday

STEAK NIGHT
Served with Chips, Mushrooms and Onion Rings! From 5 pm

x 2 Sirloins for **£10.00**
x 2 T-Bones for **£20.00**



CARVERY
Monday-Friday 12-3
£4.50 inc Free Soup Starter



SUNDAY ROAST 12-5
Main plus Dessert **£5.95**
Booking Advisable Full menu available

FAMILIES ALWAYS WELCOME, 2 LARGE OUTDOOR PLAY AREAS

TWO FOR £10 ALL DAY... EVERYDAY!

* GAMMON * PLACE * STEAK & ALE PIE * CHEESY PASTA
* 80Z RUMP * SAUSAGE & MASH * CHILLI

SALTWELLS LANE, DUDLEY DY5 1AX

www.saltwellsinn.co.uk 01384 569224

Great Bar... Great Food...

Knights Quest

Great Entertainment...



THUR 16/03/17
STARMAKERS KARAOKE

FRI 17/03/17
'LUKIN'

SAT 18/03/17
UB40 TRIBUTE

SUN 19/03/17
STARMAKERS KARAOKE

MON 20/03/17
BENS DISCO & KARAOKE

TUE 21/03/17
PREDATORS KARAOKE

WED 22/03/17
YANA!

THUR 23/03/17
STARMAKERS KARAOKE

DAILY CARVERY
Only £3.45

We also serve **GREAT STEAK & GRILL DEALS**

SUNDAY CARVERY
£4.95
Monday-Thurs 12 noon - 2:30pm
6pm - 8pm
Only Sunday 12 Noon-5pm

DRESS CODE... Dress to Impress!

"It's Great Down the Pub!"

High Street, Blackheath

Tel: 0121 561 5599

MON-THURS : 12.00-2.30PM, 6-8PM | FRI-SAT 12.00-2.30PM

Find us at www.theknightsquest.co.uk

We serve until 1am on Sundays, Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Homefront, Channel 5, 11pm

A drug enforcement agent quits his job and relocates to a small town hoping to protect his daughter from the violent world he has to deal with. However, he is forced back into his old life when he finds his new home has a criminal underbelly dominated by a narcotics kingpin. Crime thriller, starring Jason Statham, James Franco and Winona Ryder. (2013)

TUESDAY

Locked Away, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A pregnant teenager under pressure from her mother is unsure what to do about her baby, and turns to a high-school counsellor for advice. However, her confidante is secretly desperate to have a child of her own and plots to steal the infant as soon as it is born. Thriller, starring Jean Louisa Kelly. (2010)

WEDNESDAY

Deadly Departure, Channel 5, 3.15pm

The family of FBI agent Sarah Plummer are taken hostage while she is on a flight to Washington DC. While on the flight, she meets a mysterious stranger seated beside her, and is forced to make a decision that could cost her the lives of her husband and 12-year-old son. Action, starring Dina Meyer. (2016)



Fury, Friday, Channel 5, 9pm

THURSDAY

Killer Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A National Guard soldier returns from the frontline in Iraq and struggles to return to a normal life. To make matters worse, she finds herself blamed for a friendly fire incident in which two Americans were killed – and then she becomes the target of an obsessed fellow soldier seeking revenge for their deaths. Thriller, starring Roxanne McGee. (2016)

FRIDAY

Fury, Channel 5, 9pm

A veteran American sergeant leads a tank crew on one final dangerous mission in the last months of the Second World War. The assignment takes the soldiers behind enemy lines and into battle with overwhelming enemy forces, while the presence of an inexperienced new recruit in the team raises tension. Drama, starring Brad Pitt and Shia LaBeouf. (2014)

Comedy duo take in the sights and sounds of Budapest

The schedules are full of celebrities travelling the world and telling us all how great a certain holiday destination is.

What makes Travel Man different is that instead of us watching someone having a ball during a holiday of a lifetime, we instead sometimes get the impression that Richard Ayoade is going through a terrible time – and that makes it much more satisfying for those of us stuck at home.

Okay, many of the film director and star of The IT Crowd's gripes are probably exaggerated for the cameras, but it is nevertheless good fun watching Richard and his pals from the world of comedy effectively scouring the globe in search of the next tourist disappointment.

Tonight, Richard is joined by Irish comedian, actor and writer Aisling Bea.

Aisling won The Gilded Balloon's So You Think You're Funny award at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2012 and is a regular guest on panel shows, including 8 Out of 10

Cats. Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Would I Lie to You? and QI, so she will certainly give Richard a run for his money in the comedy one-liner stakes.

Their destination is Budapest, a city with miles of old-world charm.

The Hungarian capital is paradise for explorers, so you'd think Richard and Aisling would find something there to tickle their fancy during their whistlestop tour.

The cynical pair spend two days in the city with the aim of taking in as many of its sights as possible, as well as passing on a few money-saving tips to viewers at home.

Culinary highlights in the fairytale city on the Danube include a steaming hot bowl of goulash – a traditional Hungarian soup or stew of meat and vegetables, seasoned with paprika and other spices.

They also visit a 'ruin pub' for a taste of unicum, a herbal liquor which is regarded as one of the national drinks of Hungary and usually drunk as a digestif and aperitif.

Budapest sits on a patchwork of almost 125 thermal springs – more than any other capital city in the world – and 'taking the waters' has been a part of life here since people walked in togas during Roman times and the Turkish occupation.

The duo take the opportunity to visit one of these baths where they play a game of chess. Next it's onto the Zugliget chairlift, an alternative means of transport high in the Buda Hills.

The duo take a ride on the cable-suspended conveyance which takes riders up the side of János Hill and provides them with an amazing view of Budapest.

And finally they visit a statue of Columbo star Peter Falk in Falk Miksa Street.

Richard and Aisling read how there is still somewhat of a mystery surrounding this life-sized bronze reproduction of the actor, with theories suggesting it was commissioned in 2014 due to a tenuous familial connection, three years after Falk's passing.



Travel Man: 48 Hours in Budapest, Monday, Channel 4, 8.30pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Puerto Rico – Island of Enchantment: Natural World

BBC2, 9pm

The small Caribbean Puerto Rico of Puerto Rico is nicknamed the Island of Enchantment because of its beautiful beaches, amazing ambience and landmarks. Despite being only 3,515 square miles in area, it is also home to a vast array of exotic wildlife. However, many of these species are also vulnerable and countless have been pushed to the brink of extinction by human encroachment, while 95 per cent of its rainforests have been destroyed. This film, narrated by David Attenborough, profiles three conservation champions who are making it their mission to save some of the island's most precious species, namely manatees, of which only 700 remain in the wild; parrots, of which there were only 13 left at one point; and the five native species of oceanic turtle.

TUESDAY

Back to the Land with Kate Humble

BBC2, 8pm

The presenter follows innovative businesses in the Lake District through Spring, Summer and Autumn, painting portrait of the rugged landscape and gaining an insight the challenges they face. Kate Humble

helps with lambing at a fifth generation farm who have invented the world's only wool compost, so they can keep their farming traditions alive. She also goes foraging for wild food, which went to waste until one woman realised she could turn it into unique jams and preserves that are now sold nationwide

WEDNESDAY

Live International Football

ITV, 7.15pm

Germany v England. Mark Pougatch presents action from the friendly international at Signal Iduna Park in Dortmund, where England were looking to repeat last year's outstanding victory against the hosts. While the result of this match remains of some importance, the main use of the exercise for Gareth Southgate is to prepare his squad for Sunday's World Cup qualifier against Lithuania.

THURSDAY

Great British Buildings: Restoration of the Year

Channel 4, 8pm

As the host of Grand Designs, Kevin McCloud knows a thing or two about the work involved in restoring a historic building. So

he's the perfect person to co-present this new series which showcases some of the treasured buildings that have been brought back from the brink thanks to the dedication and craft skills of those involved. All of the projects have been placed on the long list by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) for their Restoration of the Year award, and in this opening edition, Kevin and Dr Anna Keay check out some of the contenders.

FRIDAY

Red Nose Day 2017

BBC1, 7pm

It's that time again when comedians and celebrities come together to have a laugh in a very good cause.

Lenny Henry, Jonathan Ross, Sally Phillips, Rob Beckett, Romesh Ranganathan, Warwick Davis and Miranda Hart are among the presenters who'll be taking to East



Red Nose Day 2017, Friday, BBC1, 7pm

London's O2 stages for a night of fundraising fun and games. However, arguably the most eagerly anticipated part of the proceedings is Red Nose Day Actually, which sees writer and director Richard Curtis catching up with the characters from Love Actually to find out what they are up to 14 years on. Presumably Hugh Grant's Prime Minister isn't still in Number 10, but did he find lasting love with Martine McCutcheon's tea lady? Here's our chance to find out as Keira Knightley, Colin Firth, Liam Neeson, Bill Nighy, Andrew Lincoln, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Rowan Atkinson also return for the sequel.

Unreported World

Channel 4, 7.30pm

Marcel Theroux explores the resurgent Russian Orthodox Church, which is at the forefront of a new movement combining religion and nationalism in its home nation. Until the fall of the Soviet Union, the Church had been persecuted by the communists, but has now forged close ties with President Vladimir Putin. Theroux meets Alexander Dugin, referred to as 'Putin's brain', whose ideas have cropped up in the president's speeches, and Fr Ioann Osyak, patriarch of a family whose members are becoming national celebrities and symbols of today's Russia – religious, conservative and deeply patriotic.

USE YOUR LOFT!

Bison
Loft Ladders

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. A "gas" strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.

- Fully manufactured by us in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from us
- Full 4 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product available with a safety handle in the loft
- Fitted in approx 2 hours (including making the opening larger)
- **NEW:** Now available in white no painting required*
- **NEW:** Now complete with "comfort" feet to protect carpets and wooden floors.

We also fit loft flooring, lighting and roof windows.
All major credit cards accepted



£395
Special offer for limited time
£299
(incl VAT)
Quote Ref ZZ

the loft stairs company

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 60, Aitcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk
Freephone 0800 389 1281
or mobile friendly 01743 761499

REPLACING YOUR WINDOWS & DOORS WILL NOT COST THE EARTH . . .

Direct manufacturers of quality UPVC Windows, Doors & Patios

Est 1996

5 WINDOWS FOR £775

FULLY GLAZED

2ft x 5ft £98	3ft x 5ft £121	4ft x 5ft £141	4ft x 5ft £174	3ft x 6ft £141
------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

Choice of any 10 different style doors from only £250

ADVANCE WINDOW
systems Ltd

Tel/Fax: 0121 565 0033 / 07752 921 699 A Rated Windows
Unit 12A Pope Street, Smethwick B66 2JP

WORLD OF MOBILITY

We have a selection of New and Used Scooters
Stairlifts fully installed, new riser recliners, new wheelchairs and a large selection of daily living aids
We also do servicing and repairs!

FREE PAIR OF SANDPIPER SLIPPERS WITH EVERY RISER RECLINER PURCHASED (1 & £150 apply)

01384 378252 Space Movers Ltd
FREE PARKING at our Showrooms: 1300 Stratford Lane, Ambrose, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4BS
We offer excellent customer service and aftercare on all our products

HIMLEY Fencing

Prices start from £60 a bay
Includes:

- Heavy duty fence panel
- Gravel board and Concrete post
- Fully insured
- 3 year warranty

Shed re-felts given

Free no obligation quotes
07871 793 677
01384 863284

10% off for OAPS

Free no obligation quotes

B&D BLINDS

Vertical, Venetian, Awnings and Roller Blinds

- 12 Month Guarantee
- All made to measure - Supply and Fit
- Washable Blinds Available
- Friendly, Personal Service
- Full Range of Colours

0121 421 1000 • 07956 416016
153 CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY B68 0EL

WE NAILED IT!

Classified Advertising Works!

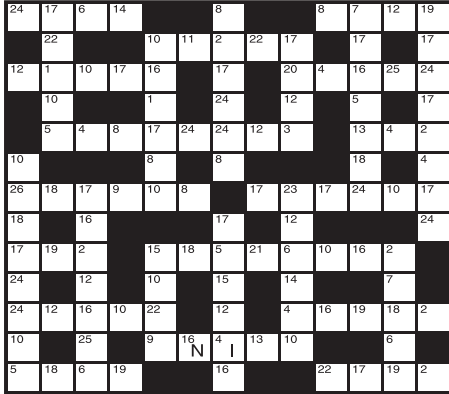
To advertise your business call **01902 319 191**

BRAIN GYM

No.421

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16 N
4	17 I
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
M	Q	W	Z	F	K	U	A	S	B	J	R	H
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
N	X	I	Y	L	G	C	T	V	E	O	D	P

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

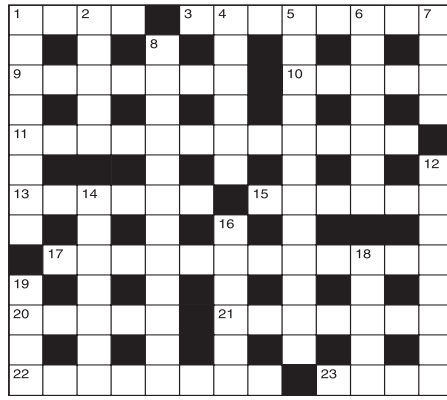
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- The flower grew (4)
- Getting a taste of palm mixture to sing about (8)
- 100 join mad craftsman in idle talk (7)
- Brown as pie (5)
- Where the little learning can be found (6,6)
- Draw out note that is legal (6)
- Threaten one politician with death (6)
- Wish joy to uncle at rag (12)
- Some are afraid a horse could get into their state (5)
- Cultivation up to being old (7)
- Giving rein to fancies of mad reign (8)
- The direction in which things are wrecked (4)

Down

- He gets the message, no doubt (8)
- Employees one should be about to lean on (5)
- Stop the others after half a year (6)
- Somehow shut my pools, about 2nd June - after I've gone (12)
- Get better, as I am to show without doubt (7)
- Happy boy has good head on him (4)
- Place found for a candidate? (8,4)
- Supporter heard ten out (8)
- Put in quarantine one who is overdue by such a margin (7)
- The box is not put upside down on the vehicle (6)
- Lower a foundation (5)
- Rear deer (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Throw (4)
- Stately (8)
- Funeral-goer (7)
- Part of a flower (5)
- Prodigality (12)
- Separate (6)
- Incentive (6)
- Conference (12)
- Aspect (5)
- Brave (7)
- Being (8)
- Carry (4)

Down

- Praises (8)
- Gush (5)
- Aviator (6)
- Rapturously (12)
- Representative (7)
- Young horse (4)
- White-hot (12)
- Miss (8)
- Infringe (7)
- Brainy (6)
- Angry (5)
- Heroic (4)

Sudoku

6			1	5			3	
	9			8			7	2
	4	7			6			
4				7		1		
		8		9		2		
	7		5		8			4
		6				9		
3	5			4			8	
	4		8	7	6			3

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	3	2	8	5	1	4	7	6
5	1	7	6	3	4	9	2	8
8	4	6	7	9	2	5	3	1
3	9	5	2	4	8	1	6	7
1	7	8	5	6	3	2	9	4
6	2	4	1	7	9	8	5	3
2	5	1	3	8	7	6	4	9
7	6	9	4	1	5	3	8	2
4	8	3	9	2	6	7	1	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Recount; 7 Apron; 9 Music; 10 Keyhole; 12 Shoplifting; 14 Meaning look; 18 Mumbled; 19 Stick; 21 Heads; 22 Or tails. Down: 1 Debut; 2 Polish; 3 Ant; 4 Upshot; 5 Gosling; 8 Denials; 11 Spanner; 13 Deputed; 15 Nobody; 16 Outlay; 17 Scale; 20 Fry. QUICK - Across: 6 Revenue; 7 Speed; 9 Train; 10 Quieten; 12 Demonstrate; 14 Obstruction; 18 Release; 19 Strew; 21 Acid; 22 Deserve. Down: 1 Merry; 2 Recite; 3 Put; 4 Appear; 5 Beneath; 8 Pulsate; 11 Roguish; 13 Absence; 15 Thesis; 16 Outset; 17 Leave; 20 Hew.

Quiz

- Who succeeded John Gregory as manager of Aston Villa?
- Who wrote Whisky Galore?
- Which country was Britain's main ally in the Seven Years' War?
- To which family of fish does the minnow belong?
- Which former England captain has managed Spurs, QPR and Bristol Rovers?
- Which US city is named after a chairman of the United States Steel Corporation?
- What is a kora?
- Which dog is named after the German for 'badger-dog'?
- What is the capital of Italy's Tuscany region?
- What nationality was playwright and novelist August Strindberg?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Soprano; 2 Sarah Hogg; 3 1965; 4 DW Griffith; 5 Prince Andrew; 6 Dutch; 7 Jean-Paul Sartre; 8 London and Venice; 9 Tim Rice; 10 The Longships.

Niner: REACTIONS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

132359
636879
476679

gives a French port,
gives a second French port,
gives a French city.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



THE CROSSWELL INN

Whyley Walk, Langley Tel: 0121 552 2629

Nestled in the heart of Langley Green Village, catering for all ages and groups. Come and find out what all the fuss is about!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday: Weight watchers 6-7pm, Zumba 7.45-8.45pm only £4 a class!

Tuesday: MPL Poker 8pm Free to join!

Wednesday: Zumba 7.30-8.30pm

Thursday: MPL Poker 8pm Free to join! Darts 8pm start

Friday: Carvery lunch 12-2pm and only £3.99!

Saturday: Weight watchers 9-10am, Saturday nights alright for singing! Karaoke from 9pm!

Best Sunday carvery in the West Midlands!

Available 12-5pm



SPECIAL OFFER FOR 2017

Book your wedding reception or engagement party with us between 15/3 and 31/10 and receive a FREE bottle of Prosecco to enjoy during your event!

DAVID WITHERS BUTCHERS

Established 1990

FROM FIELD TO PLATE WITH COMPLETE INTEGRITY IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

- ◆ Pork and Flavoured Sausages
- ◆ Award Winning Pork Pies
- ◆ Hot Eating Pies and Pasties
- ◆ Homemade Burgers
- ◆ Home Reared Beef
- ◆ Home Reared Lamb
- ◆ Locally Sourced Pork
- ◆ Range of Cold Cooked Meats
- ◆ Home Reared Beef
- ◆ Home Reared Lamb
- ◆ Locally Sourced Pork
- ◆ Range of Cold Cooked Meats

ASK ABOUT OUR SAVERS CLUB - SPREAD THE COSTS

1 St Kenelms Road, Romsley B62 0NU

☎ 01562 710422

Make a night of it

Soul sister – enjoy a night in the city before Emeli's gig



Emeli Sandé will be singing her heart out at The O2 Academy in Birmingham on Sunday. Here at The Ticket, we wonder where the Scottish songstress would go to eat, drink and be merry on a night out before a gig. Read All About It. . .

MAKING A MEAL



The Mailbox is the place to go for a meal before you don your dancing shoes. There's oodles of places to choose from, so if you fancy a quick bite to eat there are burgers, pizzas or even tapas on the menu. There are also pubs and bars if you just want to grab a beer or vino before you see the gig. If you prefer something more decadent than Marco Pierre White's restaurant at The Cube is top of the list. Fine dining with glorious views over the city will make this a real night to remember. We reckon Emeli would love a slap-up dinner there.

THREE CHEERS



Pre-gig drinks are a must on a night out so why not head to a place full of heart and soul? The Island Bar is a stone's throw from the O2 on Suffolk Street, Queensway, and is a tropical paradise offering loads of cocktails including a Mint Choc Martini laced with vodka and chocolate mint liqueur. If you're stopping in the city overnight after the gig, Quarter Horse coffee shop on Bristol Street serves a scrumptious breakfast. Think sour dough toast or cakes and pastries washed down with incredible coffee. Sounds like Heaven.

SLEEP IT OFF



POSH PAD

Lie Next To Me at the four-star Malmaison hotel in the Mailbox. Here you can enjoy food, drink and sleep in uber stylish surrounds: think modern and moody, sultry and slick. There's a brasserie and a bar so you can have dinner and drinks before you head to the show. There's a vibrant atmosphere so it'll certainly get you in the mood. Why not make a weekend of it as there's also a spa if you want to kick back, relax and indulge? There are rooms and suites available. We love the look of the super quirky Nirvana suite (pictured above) which screams colourful and punky. It even has a mirrored Jacuzzi, perfect for bubbles in bubbles! Prices vary but can be as little as £75 depending on the date.

DISCOUNT DOZE

If you need to watch your bank balance and require a cheap sleep, head to The Comfort Inn, Station Street. It's only a 10-minute walk from the venue so a quick and easy stopover after a big night. The rooms are basic but comfy enough for you to rest your weary head and tired tootsies. The best bit is that it won't cost much leaving you some spare change to download loads of Emeli's music.

GET THERE

It's easy peasy as it's on the main drag into the city making it accessible by train, car or bus. Catch the train and head to Birmingham New Street and the O2's only a 10-minute walk from the station. By bus it's a case of hopping off at the nearest stop to the venue. Or by car there are loads of places park up. If you don't want to spend a fortune on fees then you could park further out of the city centre and walk/bus/train in to the city.

StarReader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind



Fly direct from Birmingham airport

LIMITED AVAILABILITY
SUMMER
Savers

Don't miss out on these sizzling summer deals from Omega, with flights, transfers, hotel and luggage all included. Snap them up before they're gone!



4 STAR ST ANTON AUSTRIA *Summer Saver*

Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

Mountain pine air you could bottle and sell, glacier fresh beer, scented meadows, crystal lakes, waterfalls... that's Austria in summertime, the perfect antidote to city hustle and beach bustle!

PRICE INCLUDES...

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Friedrichshafen
- ✓ 7 nights at the 4 star Sport Hotel, St Anton with breakfast
- ✓ St Anton Summer Card with one day's free use of cable cars
- ✓ All airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- ✓ Services of an English-speaking representative

8 days,
by AIR
only
£699 pp

VIEW ONLINE AT

www.omega-holidays.com/VQX349

QUOTE CODE: VQX349

Optional excursions to pre-book
Lichtenstein & Appenzell, and
Lindau & Lake Constance

DUBROVNIK *Summer Saver*

Departing Sunday 2 July 2017

Join us for a superb-value Croatian getaway to the 'pearl of the Adriatic' with optional excursions to Montenegro's Kotor Bay area and a galleon cruise round the Elaphiti Islands. This great-value break includes flights and transfers, 3 star hotel with breakfast, dinner and Croatian magic as standard.



PRICE INCLUDES...

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Dubrovnik
- ✓ 7 nights at the 3 star Hotel Komodor, Lapad Bay, Dubrovnik
- ✓ Hot buffet breakfast and buffet dinner
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel

Optional excursions at a supplement: Island Galleon Cruise and excursion to Montenegro's Kotor Bay

8 days,
by AIR
only
£799 pp

VIEW ONLINE AT

www.omega-holidays.com/LUL738

QUOTE CODE: LUL738

Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782. ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call: **01902 902165**

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00 SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00



OmegaHols



@OmegaHols



OmegaHols





Spacious and beautifully presented detached home

This exceptionally spacious and beautifully presented detached modern residence in Hopyard Lane, Gornal Wood, Dudley, is for sale through Taylors at £325,000.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an imposing entrance hall, a fitted cloakroom/WC, a sitting room with a bay window and Minster fireplace, a magnificent dining kitchen with granite work surfaces

GORNAL WOOD

£325,000

and contemporary oak units and many integrated appliances.

It also has a utility room, dining room and a conservatory.

Bedroom one has fitted wardrobes

and a shower room, and there are three further generous bedrooms, a bathroom, large garage and a secluded garden.

The selling agents are expecting a lot of interest to be shown in this property.

For further information contact Taylors on 01902 880888 or visit www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

Detached family home in private off-road position

CRADLEY HEATH

£250,000

<<<

A home in a convenient position, yet with a rural feel, this three-bedroom detached family home in High Haden Road, Cradley Heath, is superbly presented throughout.

It is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £250,000.

In a most unusual, private, off-road position with a superb aspect over the surrounding area, its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, cloakroom/WC, a large lounge, impressive conservatory, superbly proportioned farmhouse-style kitchen with a range cooker, three good-sized bedrooms and a well-proportioned bathroom. The property has gas central heating, double glazing and good-sized grounds.

Call 0121 585 6667.



Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



CRADLEY HEATH, HADEN HILL, The Woodlands£1,395 pcm+Fees
An exceptional family home! Here is an opportunity to acquire a most impressive detached home with 4 double bedrooms and pleasantly situated in this very quiet cul-de-sac close to Haden Hill Park and Halesowen Town Centre. The property offers excellent family accommodation of generous proportions throughout. Featuring 2 reception rooms, beautiful fitted kitchen with appliances, utility room, WC, family bathroom with shower, en-suite to master bedroom, driveway and



HALESOWEN, Mendip Road£695 pcm+Fees
A spacious 3 bedroom semi detached home on the Squirrels Estate in Halesowen/Hayley Green, being double glazed and centrally heated throughout. Being located on this popular estate the property would make an ideal family home and has accommodation to comprise a reception hall, lounge, dining kitchen, 3 bedrooms, parking and garage. MINIMUM CONTRACT 12 MONTHS. EPC: D



KINGSWINFORM, Camberley Road£650 pcm+Fees
A very well presented semi detached property located on the popular High Acres Estate and offering extremely easy access to schools, shops and local amenities. Large lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, lovely rear garden with decking area, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage & driveway. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place£650 pcm+Fees
●●● THE LARGEST APARTMENT IN THE BLOCK●●●
Luxury living in Hayley Green is this superb luxury first floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, a further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B



CRADLEY HEATH, Mill Road£595 pcm+Fees
Located on this very popular Timbertree Estate and ideally situated for local schools and transport links is this lovely 2 double bedroom house featuring reception room, fitted kitchen with utility, bathroom with shower, private rear garden. Off road parking. EPC: D



WOLLESCOTE/LYE, Spring Street£595 pcm+Fees
●●●OFF ROAD PARKING AT THE REAR●●● Detached 2 bedroom period house. At the end of the cul-de-sac is access to Wollescote park, and shops close by. This lovely property features front lounge and rear lounge with feature fireplaces, well fitted kitchen with fridge freezer, 2 good size bedrooms & a downstairs modern bathroom with shower. Long rear easy maintenance garden with rear parking. EPC: E



ROWLEY REGIS, Mincing Lane£575 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished traditional 3 bedroom semi detached house in a popular location, which is ideal for local shops, bus links and the M5 J2. This family home features entrance hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, upstairs bathroom, front & rear gardens, gas central heating and double glazing. EPC: C



WORDSLEY, John Street £575 pcm+Fees
A stunning 3 bedroom terrace property featuring a new upstairs bathroom and a new kitchen with patio doors leading into the garden. Two reception rooms and new windows and carpets throughout complete the property. This is a superb family home which offers a long term rental. EPC: TBC



ROWLEY REGIS, Winwood Road£575 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished semi detached family home in a popular location, close to the M5 J2 and Blackheath Town Centre. Featuring 3 bedrooms, double glazing, gas central heating, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, front and rear gardens and driveway parking for 2/3 cars. EPC: C



CRADLEY HEATH, Clifton Street£550 pcm+Fees
Within walking distance to Old Hill shops and local train station. A well presented unfurnished modern mid terrace house benefits from gas central heating, lovely living room, fitted dining kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, 2 allocated parking spaces. EPC: C



TIPTON, Ferguson Drive £495 pcm+Fees
●●●TO UNDERGO A RE-DECORATION●●● A lovely modern 1st floor apartment available now, which is ideally located for Dudley and Wednesbury. This great apartment features 2 bedrooms, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, 2 allocated parking spaces, communal gardens, internal viewing recommended. EPC: G



DUDLEY, Attingham Drive £495 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished 2nd floor apartment close to Dudley Town Centre. Featuring an open plan lounge/dining kitchen with fridge freezer and washing machine, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with a shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, alarm, allocated parking. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Cavalier Drive£495 pcm+Fees
●●● PART FURNISHED●●● An immaculately presented ground floor apartment, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre, and very popular for first time renters. Featuring a spacious lounge with solid and patio doors leading to patio area, fitted kitchen, large double bedroom with wardrobes, chest of drawers, bed frame and mattress, bathroom with shower, double glazing, electric heating, allocated parking. EPC: G



BRIERLEY HILL, Bell Street£465 pcm+Fees
Conveniently located for Brierley Hill Town Centre and Merry Hill. A stunning refurbished ground floor apartment set in quiet surroundings. This lovely apartment featuring a brand new fitted kitchen, 2 large double bedrooms, spacious lounge, new bathroom with shower, allocated parking. EPC: TBC



ROWLEY REGIS, Powke Lane£450 pcm+Fees
Deceptively large and well worth a viewing. This 1st floor apartment features a good size double bedroom, spacious lounge, large kitchen, huge bathroom with a separate shower cubicle, parking to the side of the property and also within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. EPC: F



BRIERLEY HILL, The Breeze£450 pcm+Fees
A delightful modern 1 bedroom 1st floor flat in this convenient position within easy distance of local schools, shops, road and public transport links. Open plan lounge/fitted kitchen with appliances, double bedroom, bathroom with shower. Allocated parking for 1 car. EPC: B



CRADLEY HEATH/OLD HILL, King Street£435 pcm+Fees
A wonderfully unfurnished ground floor flat within walking distance to Old Hill shops and train station. This property comprises of a light and airy living room, fitted kitchen with a washing machine, 1 double bedroom and shower room. Benefits include electric storage heating, communal gardens, allocated parking. EPC: TBC



WORCESTER, Marten Road£410 pcm+Fees
●●STUDENT LET●● A room with this three bedroom semi detached home, which is gas centrally heated and double glazed (where spec). Being within a short walk from University of Worcester.



HALESOWEN, Somers Road£375 pcm+Fees
A 1 bedroom 1st floor apartment close to Halesowen Town Centre, offering generous accommodation which includes new carpets, featuring lounge with open plan kitchen, bedroom with en-suite shower room, double glazing, communal garden, on road parking, unfurnished. EPC: G



LYE/STOURBRIDGE, High Street£375 pcm+Fees
Stourbridge, High Street£375 pcm+Fees
A 1 bedroom 1st floor apartment close to Lye Town, also close for Lye Train Station. This spacious 2nd floor apartment features a lovely lounge, 1 double bedroom, bathroom, modern and contemporary kitchen/diner, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking. EPC: E



LYE/STOURBRIDGE, Eagle House£285 pcm+Fees
A 1st floor studio apartment in the centre of Lye Town, also close for Lye Train Station. Featuring a combined lounge/bathroom, fitted kitchen with electric cooker, shower room, electric heater, shared laundry room, parking at rear, private communal area with seating. EPC: E

Local Specialists



Automotive

Why Pay Main Dealer Prices?

Crossways Motor Bodies

- Motor Body Work Specialists
- Insurance Approved
- From a minor bump to major repairs
- **FREE** local pick up and delivery
- **FREE** estimates and written quotes

30 Years Experience



For a **FREE** estimate call:
0121 559 4040

We also supply a car and van to none fault or insurance claims
Web: www.crosswaysmotorbodies.co.uk
email: crossways1@btinternet.com

Station Road, Old Hill, Cradley Heath, B64 6PL

Builders

D H Household Maintenance

All building maintenance and DIY work undertaken
All areas covered
0121 422 8594
07985 548466

Gardening

R & S Gardens

- All garden work undertaken
- Hedges and lawns cut
- General tidy and rubbish removed
- Garden landscaping and fencing work

Telephone: 07851 323303

Carpentry

CARPENTRY SERVICES

ROBERT CHESNEY
CARPENTRY / JOINERY

KITCHEN FITTING SPECIALIST
ALL CARPENTRY WORKS
ROOFS / DOORS / LOCKS
DECKING SPECIALIST
CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE
0121 421 6740
07779746939



D. SHAW

CARPENTRY AND BUILDING SERVICES

25 Years experience
All aspects of carpentry inc:
Stairs, Kitchens, Decking and Fascias, Loft Conversions
For a **FREE** quote telephone
07812 125353
01384 412933

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

CLEANCARE

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners
Fully Trained
Insured
Est: over 12 years
Friendly service
For free quotes
Call
(07816) 817744
Tel: 0121 503 0854

Computers

NEED ADVICE ON COMPUTING?

- All PC Problems Resolved • Software & Hardware Installed
 - Virus & Spyware Removed • PC Health Checks
 - Home Network Implemented • Internet Connections Installed
- DONT BE FOOLED INTO THINKING YOU NEED A NEW PC**
Call: 0121 422 7646 or: 07970 846 552
JUDRAP PC SUPPORT
email: support@judrap.com www.judrap.com

Mobile Hairdresser

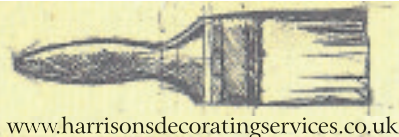
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Cuts, Colours, Perms etc

Hair Extensions

Call Lyndsey **07795 514858**

Decorating



www.harrisonsdecoratingservices.co.uk

HARRISONS PAINTING & DECORATING

Commercial & Residential Work Undertaken
• Painting • Tiling • Kitchens
• Paperhanging • Flooring • Bathrooms
Call Nick: 07792865975
nkharrison@btinternet.com
Fully Insured - Quality Finishing - Reasonable Rates



MJD Painter & Decorator

Interior & Exterior
Special discounts for OAP's
Free Quotes - Fully Insured
Commercial Work Undertaken
No job too small
Give Mick a Call
Tel: 07889923896
Michael.J.Downing@hotmail.co.uk

HALESOWEN DECORATORS

Painters & Decorators
OAP DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
10% OFF with this advert
Residential and Commercial work undertaken
Call **07860 206713**
0121 602 0966
halesowendecorators@gmail.com

Driveways & Patios

JDC Driveways & Patios

Tarmac, Block Paving, Turf Laying, Graveling, Fencing, Drainage and Pressure Cleaning
Free quotation
No obligation
01384 466950 / 07944883248
www.jdclandscapes.co.uk

Double Glazing

Misted Sealed Units? Black Country Glazing

Contact **US** for a **FREE** quote!
Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories
'A' Rated Windows as Standard
10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Please see our customer reviews on either Homepro or Which

“Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth”
Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ
Est 1987 **01384 566100**
www.blackcountryglazing.com

Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac Drives • Paths • Patios Slabbing • Red Tarmac Car Parks

5 Year Guarantee On All Work

Free Quotations and Advice

Tel: **01384 79900 • 07583 170190**
www.discountdriveways.co.uk



ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD

City and Guilds Streetworks Approved
• Tarmac • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios
• Landscaping • Streetworks • Curb dropping • Turfing
• Fencing and Decking • Power Washing • 5 year guarantee
FREE estimate • 15 years experience • Fully insured • Resinbond Drives.
01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419
Web: www.acepavingsservicesltd.co.uk
Email: acepavingsservices@outlook.com
Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields, Halesowen B63 2QB

Electricians

J S QUALITY ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD

Fuseboard upgrades / complete rewires / security alarms and lighting / fault finding and repairs / shower replacements and more
Free quotations available
Over 20 years' experience
Contact now:
0121 531 6884 / 07753 393562
www.jsqualityelectrical.co.uk
j.selectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk

ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work
Honest reliable service



Ring Tony or Julie on
07974 428 603
KEEP IT LOCAL
"No Job Too Small"

MB electric

All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800
For a high quality local service call:
0121 3690311
07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

Landscaping

CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping
Call now for a **FREE QUOTE**
01902 562600 or **07539 887144**

Fascias Soffits & Guttering

Roberts Guttering Services

20% Discount
Local Specialists
Dry Verge Units Fitted
For All aspects of cleaning & repair call
Robert for a **FREE** quote on
07767869792
We Fit UPVC Soffits & Fascias

Driveways & Patios

Cressage Paving

Specialists in:
Block Paving, Tarmac, Landscaping, Graveling, Patios, Forecourts, Fencing and Driveways
All Groundwork undertaken
FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION
Mini Digger & Driver available
01384 944032
Mob: **07879 073702**
www.cressage-group.co.uk

Fencing

LBT Fencing

All types of quality fencing supplied & erected
Plus decking, slabbing & block paving
FREE QUOTES
Tel: **0121 585 9992** or **07884 344616**
www.lbtfencing.co.uk

Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
• Turfing • Garden Clearance
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products
eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken
Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)
Call Steve on
01384 242891 or **07970 300586**

Flooring

Arnold Laver

Quality Doors & Hardwood Flooring
LOW PRICES
Providing the materials for your great idea!
Dudley Road, Oldbury, Birmingham, West Midlands, B69 3DA
T: 0121 533 5428 F: 0121 544 7186 E: birmingham@laver.co.uk

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation
WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK
01384 213644 or **07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

Roy's Mowing & Garden Maintenance

- Garden tidy up's
- Bush/tree/sconifers/hedges cut or removed
- No job too big or small
- Special rates for OAP's
- Gutters Cleaned
- Fencing and Sheds Painted/Creosoted
- Chipper Hire
- Complete Garden Ripout
- Rubbish Removal
- Bush/Hedge and Tree Removal
- Patios and Drives Jetwashed

Please call: **0121 602 3815 / 07979 980951**

R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years
Gardening & Landscaping Services
Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting
• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing
• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared
FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS
FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:
07970 876 638 • 01384 569 148
www.ragardenservices.net

To advertise your business and reach more than 46,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

Local Specialists

Buy and
sell with
ClassifiedsAds



1. Visit our
ClassifiedAds website
www.classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk



2. Call our Classified sales
team on **01902 317 878**



3. Self Serve -
Create your own advert
in print and online - visit:
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

Brought to you by **Express & Star**

Mot's

MOT
£27.99
with this advert
FREE RE-TEST
Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,
(rear of Cold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ
0121 559 6001

Oven Cleaning

For a friendly local independent
oven cleaning service
CLEANOVEN
We clean all types of domestic
ovens, cookers, traditional stoves,
hobs, extractors and microwaves
Call us for a **FREE** quote
Tel: 01384 393168
Mobile Anytime: 07713 163060

Plastering

C.A. Plastering
For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment
needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding,
partitions, re-skimming and artex covering.
No job too small **07538 718264**

DH PLASTERERS
FROM boarding,
skimming, patching
and repairs TO
complete rooms
GUARANTEED
LOWEST PRICES
0121 422 8594 or
07985 548466
Local Specialists

Plumbing

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
All installations and repairs **EST 1994**
Supply and fit or fit only
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-602 6776
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Tiling

I.C.A. TILING SERVICES
Walls, floors, bathrooms, kitchens and conservatories.
Ceramic, porcelain, mosaics, slate,
marble and all natural stone.
FULL BATHROOM INSTALLATION AVAILABLE
Quality workmanship at competitive prices.
Fully insured. Portfolio available.
For a free quote call Ian on
01384 412796 or 07890 894631

Floor and Wall Tiling
Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone
Walls • Floors • Bathrooms • Kitchens • Conservatories
All work undertaken • Call Tony for a free quote
0121 422 4116 / 07961 604632

Plumbing & Heating

Combi Doc
Gas Safe registered 120506
Get your boiler serviced
and ready for winter
Special Offers
Now On!
Have you had
your boiler/fire
checked for Carbon
Monoxide??
Insulation, repairs and services on boilers,
fires and cookers
Install A band condensing boiler with
free wireless room stat from £1250
Ex British Gas with 30 years experience
07956 830204

Knight Gas
Heating & Plumbing
Central Heating/Boilers
Fires and Cookers
Installation and Repair
All Plumbing Work
Landlords certificate
FREE QUOTES
Call Gary on
0121 550 3424 or
07715 082113
Local Specialists

Property Maintenance

DLH Property Maintenance
• Interior/Exterior Painting Decor
• Render/Repointing Brickwork
• GRP Flat Roof Fibre Glass Systems
• Jet Washing/Driveways/Patios,
Re-Sanding/Sealing
• All General Property
Maintenance Undertaken
Direct Line:
07788 628517
FULLY
Qualified
FULLY
Insured

K S SERVICES
All types of General Repairs
to your home and garden
Also interior and exterior
decorating
Local Friendly Service
0121 532 4861
No Job Too Small
JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES
Specialists in
Re-upholstery, Repairs and
Antiques
CONTRACT & DOMESTIC
No Job Too Small
FREE ESTIMATES
Choice of patterns
Quality Workmanship
• Blackheath
0121 561 3977 daytime
or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6 pm

Window Specialists

Full Window Wizard Services Available

• Misted Units Replaced
• Broken Hinges
• Door Adjustment
• New Locks Installed
Call for
further details
0121 421 7001

Roofing

ALL WEATHER ROOFING
Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat
Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges,
Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding
FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE
Over 30 years experience
0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Mobile Number: 07947 839451
allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk
allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com

ROOFING SERVICES
One of the Leading Roofing Companies
No Job too Small, No Job too Big
• Gutters Cleaned From £15
• Small Repairs From £15
• Pointing Work From £15
SPECIAL OFFERS
on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters,
New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt
and Garage Roofs.
- Rubberised flat roofing
- Flat roof specialist
- Insurance work undertaken
- Est 25 years
- Discounted for OAPs
- Exterior Painting
FREE QUOTES AVAILABLE
Home: **01384 872276**
Mobile: **07584 081228**
WILL BEAT ANY
GENUINE QUOTE

PJ LEE and SONS
Roofing Specialists
Est 1971
• Complete Roofs • Guttering
• Loose Slates • Re-pointing • Chimneys
• Fascias • Soffits
Local family business you can trust
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Mobile: 07769 667 248 or 01384 423625
FREE
Estimates

ELITE PLASTICS
• Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
Premium Products Expertly Fitted
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.
For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of
local businesses and tradesman to deal with your
needs and requirements.

Express & Star

DATING

Here's how to use your dating service ...

To Place your advert call:

0844 381 5936

Simple text REG followed by your first name, date of birth, and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to 09093 FREE Standard UK mobile calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

You can now Date ONLINE or via your mobile just visit:

http://dating.expressandstar.com

The biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you.. visit..

http://dating.expressandstar.com

Try it.. You'll love it!

Dates in YOUR region

0906 500 3955

Text.. REPLY26 (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to 09093. REPLY26 123456 I've got in touch, then send to 80098. Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

0906 500 3957

Been left a message? Pickup your replies on:

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge

Single Women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per 160 characters received.

KAREN, 46, witty female who loves to laugh, WLTm similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426335

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3033 Box 419673

LOUISE, 40s, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into my life. Call me. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426321

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715

FARMERS daughter, 69, single, likes heavy hovers, animals, meals out, GSOH, friendship only. 65-75. Text only. Mailbox: 5799589

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

CHRIS, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426301

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375

JAN, 46, lonely divorced romantic female, brown hair, green eyes, curvy feminine figure, employed, OHAC, WLTm attentive male for TLC. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426255

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 422365

PAM, 40, cuddly feminine young looking female, OHAC, financially secure, looking for fun times without complications with likeminded male. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426253

CARLY, 34yrs, attractive and discreet military wife seeks no strings fun with respectable gent. Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box 424419

MATURE lady 70s, various interests but a bit lonely, hoping to meet a gent to chat me up, come on, we can have some fun together. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426349

ATTRACTIVE well educated lady, mid 30's, solvent, professional, seeks discreet broad minded gent. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 425891

GENTS, please call me if you are looking to meet a kind sincere lady for nights at the theatre, socialising etc. You can call or text me. I promise to reply, I'm very genuine. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426345

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box 425979

ANNABELLE, sophisticated 28yrs hoping to meet older gent for adult fun, discreet, sincere, genuine advertiser. Text only Mailbox: 4157105

JACKIE is 54yrs and an attractive easygoing brunette, she's hoping to meet a similar minded chap for some fun, dates, chats, text or call me. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426343

KAREN, 52, 5ft5, short brown/blond hair, green eyes, medium build, GSOH, loving, caring and kind, likes to do lots of things, likes a laugh, WLTm similar gent, hope to hear from you soon! Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425917

MELINDA, 52yrs, attractive and broad minded seeking chap any age for some fun. Couples also. Text only Mailbox: 4131946

ATTRACTIVE blonde lady, 54yrs, loyal, romantic and solvent hoping to meet a gent with GSOH for romance, sensual times and more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426341

JOSIE, sexy black lady, 52yrs seeks adult times with concerning gent, any age, discreet clean, womanly figure. Text only Mailbox: 4208592

CAROLINE, attractive mature lady, various interests, hoping to meet a smart gent for socialising, perhaps leading to something more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426347

SUE, 38, petite blonde, curvy size 8, outgoing, cultured, enjoys cosy night out, seeking discreet, loving male to make me feel special. Status unimportant. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426219

SARA, 43, educated independent attractive female, nervous about dating through advertising, so pls don't disappoint me by not replying. I promise I won't disappoint you! Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426161

JANINE 40yrs, very cute petite and slim female who has a real passion for life, WLTm similarly passionate male for tactile LTR. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426125

JANE, attractive and young looking 60 something lady, active, outgoing with interesting personality, hoping to meet a kind gent for occasional meetings. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425931

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lovely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426078

BROWN eyed Brummie female, 66, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out, WLTm male 67-74 for LTR. Text only. Mailbox: 5780679

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTm male for mutual companionship without ties. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425913

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTm male for mutual companionship without ties. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425913

DONNA naughty 40's, pretty, loves nights in, gym, theatre, seeks someone to make me laugh, give lots of cuddles and go on fun dates. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425867

DAWN 33yr old female looking for companionship with understanding, non-jealous male 35-55yrs. Status unimportant. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425849

ANETTA, black cuddly lady seeks man who knows what a woman needs. I'm very friendly and have time for you. Please call or text me. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425933

MERRY widow seeks lovely lonely gent for companionship. Please call, we can have a chat and see how we get on. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425927

GILLY, slim petite lady, affectionate and loving, solvent with own home, hoping to meet gent, must be kind, looks unimportant. ACA/text answered. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425929

EILEEN mid 60s seeks gent 50s-60s for friendship, possibly much more. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425341

SUE 38yrs enjoys most things, meals in/out, easygoing, broadminded, passionate, slightly fierce, looking for adult fun, call me if you're interested in spicing things up. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425587

Single Men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per 160 characters received.

YOUNG 60, West Midlands male, 5ft8, grey hair, wear specs, GSOH, sexy Scorpio, broad minded, slim to medium build, varied interests, seeking a genuine, honest, sexy lady for LTR. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426137

40 year old Hungarian male, 5ft8, slim, dark blond hair, blue eyes, WLTm a lady 30-45 to spend some time together for friendship. Text only. Mailbox: 5800702

SOLVENT gentleman, young 70s, loves life seeking a lady of any age to spoil and pamper, take on holidays, wine and dine. Genuine advertiser. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425935

WILLIAM, young 56, would like some adult fun with a sexy lady, any age, wants and good time and discreet fun. Text only. Mailbox: 5321154

MALE, 60s, 5ft10, slim build, looking to meet female, for a mature adult relationship. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426053

MALE, 58, works in agriculture, lives in North Shropshire area, likes the countryside, days at the coast even in the winter, meals out, looking for loving, caring, country girl. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426037

SINGLE male, 31 years old, brown eyes, black hair, 6ft, seeks single slim athletic build lady similar age for fun, hopefully more. Text only. Mailbox: 4785584

CHRISTIAN, 57, 6ft, dark, likes walking, nice meals and socialising, looking for discreet times with a similar fun lady. If you are interested please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425947

STEVE, 59, sincere and genuine, likes pub meals, country walks and cinema, seeks Chinese, Tia, Black, Asian or Italian lady, looks unimportant but personality is, for friendship. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425831

PROFESSIONAL gent, mid 60s loves holidays, wineing dining, shows in London, seeking similar minded lady to romance. Own house car. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425941

MICHELLE, 34, blonde blue-eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine, OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long-term romance and more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425669

AMANDA, slim blonde, 50s seeks discreet gent for special times, mutually beneficial to us both. Call now. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425327

SARA, 43, educated, independent, attractive female, nervous about dating through advertising, so pls don't disappoint me by not replying. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425703

BROWN eyed female, 66, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out, WLTm male 67-74 for LTR. Text only. Mailbox: 5501142

JEAN, 40, 5ft slim, busty blonde, new to dating and fed up of going through the pub scene, WLTm down to earth male for adult company. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425971

FEMALE, 66 yrs old, looks young, goes to laund, n/s who is genuine, caring and just wants to be loved again. Text only. Mailbox: 5750819

MARIE, very attractive curvy widow, longing for romance, seeking country-loving male with old-fashioned values for lots of TLC. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425599

ROZ, 43, tactile, sensual, loves to dress up, and wear heels, seeks genuine caring male. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425597

TALL male, 58, seeks larger woman, any age, for discreet fun, married or single. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425643

GENUINE male, 37, friendly and easygoing, enjoys sport and keep fit, WLTm genuine female 25-45, for friendship/relationship. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420253

TALL, dark, attractive female, 57, WLTm an attractive female for discreet daytime fun, 25-50. Can travel. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425758

MALE, late 60s, medium build, 5ft10, n/s, car owner, likes meals out, holidays, walks, WLTm slim, attractive female who enjoys similar activities for LTR. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425757

ATTRACTIVE Shrewsbury male, 50s, WLTm an attractive female, any age/status, for discreet daytime fun and excitement. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422801

GARY, 46, 5ft10, blue eyes, GSOH, likes football, quiet nights in, nights out, cinema, walking, travelling, looking for a likewise woman, 35-50, bubbly and fun loving with a GSOH. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425441

I'm Andy, 52, looking for a lady, 50-65, for long term relationship, so text me and let's see what happens. Text only. Mailbox: 5396692

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283

ATTRACTIVE male, 58, seeks adventurous female, 50-70, for close fun. Any status or size. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425535

DAN 46, easy going chap WLTm a lady 40+, for an uncomplicated discreet friendship with or strings fun. Discretion guaranteed. Text only. Mailbox: 5595608

WELL made broad male, 5ft 10ins, medium build, looking for some adult fun with lovely sexy lady, possible LTR or friends with benefits. Text only. Mailbox: 5321154

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283

CHRISTIAN male 51, seeking Christian female, 35-45 for friendship, possibly more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423747

MATURE male, 70s, tall, retired, recovering alcoholic, WLTm someone understanding, maybe in the same situation for friendship and mutual support. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425263

Customer support

Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

http://dating.expressandstar.com

CALL CHARGE*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission, 0844 calls cost 7 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATES STOP to free match alerts. To stop text STOP to 07741 77042. For full T&Cs go to www.localads.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT*: 80098/8990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 155 characters). Guaranteed up to 4 messages for each message you send. Service only available where phone icon shown. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public place and do not give personal details to people you have not met. To STOP text stop to 80098/8990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message. To opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, RH16 3EG, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. Advertisers may come from our national database and from our pdc app, your ad may also appear on our dating app. w. 13/03/17

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

funeral directors

N.E.DOWNING
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent family run Funeral Directors

24 hour service

Halesowen

0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

monumental masons

HALESTONE MEMORIALS
Modern and traditional memorials

Ring for FREE brochure

0121 550 4235

Or visit our showroom at Somers Road, Halesowen B62 8EN

www.halestonememorials.co.uk

lost & found

LOST MALE BLACK CAT From St. Anne's Road, Fordhouses, last seen February 9. Will the man who came to the window the same night and any further information please ring 01902 788768.

LOST PASSPORT I Karzan Latef Noori. Passport number G170 9419. Please telephone 07321 370000.

caravans / motorhomes

We Want Your Motorhome

Finance Cleared
Fast Secure Payment
Top Prices Paid

Please Call

AEG on 01384 848439 or Lee Jinks on 07740 895448

www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk

WILLERBY GRANADA 28x12, 15,500, decking included, 2017 site fee included. Please contact Mr Ayre 07809 807 535 for details

KAMPA RALLY CLUB 260 porch awning, 10ft x 6ft, brown and gold, good condition, £80. 0121 293 3448.

LUNAR 462

1998, two berth, model LX2000 with Powertouch Mover, plus Townsure Porch Awning.

Ready to go.

Serviced June 2016.

£2,200

Phone 01902 893055.

OXYGEN SPEED X1 inflatable awning with annex, not 12 months old, illness forces sale, carpet included, £595. 07814 817506.

caravans wanted

CARAVAN WANTED. Cash on pick up asap. Caravan wanted. Call me on 07717 090817.

WANTED POP TOP caravan, Renault, 1992 746031.

fishing

FISHING TACKLE WANTED anything considered. New or Old 01902 754011 or 07931 568716

holidays

caravan parks

LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME for Sale on 5* Park, DG, CH, bar & restaurant, Child & pet friendly, 20 acres walking woodland £24,995 inc 2017 site fees Call 01568 708 326.

3 Home & Services

MOBILITY SCOOTERS from £350 can deliver, servicing available. Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384 265019 / 07821 246292

PRO-RIDER C3 DELUXE Motor scooter, maximum speed 6mph, used only, once due to illness. £450 one. 07724 084908

TWO WHEELCHAIRS good condition, £45 each. 1902 679483.

WREKIN STARLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

jewellery & watches

OMEGA SPEEDMASTER MOON WATCH 2001, full box and papers, small mark on glass otherwise very good condition, £2,450. 0121 5206534.

WANTED OLD GENTS WRIST WATCHES All makes and models. Working or broken. Telephone 07979 020256.

2 Leisure Time

boats & water sports

CANALBOAT 55FT Stern cruiser, dinette layout, includes fridge and freezer, full size gas cooker, £39,000.00. 01922 443287.

items for sale

MODEL PLANES, x10 plus 4 sets of radio controls. £350.05 07857 893607.

QUALCAST 1200 mower, used once, £35. Panasonic microwave oven, £50. Indesit woktop dishwasher £50. 01902 703529.

ROYAL ALBERT old country roses coffee set, unused £45, and four seasons set of plates, new condition, £25. 07548 684497.

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
SATELLITE & CCTV AERIALS FITTED FROM £75
Work Guaranteed
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 416029
01922 778095
07833 738857

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9CT £300 per OUNCE CASH PAID TODAY
No amount is too small
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY
• Diamonds and Gold Cuffs • Clocks • Paintings
Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A BEST CASH PRICE

FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS
Any gauge or age
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/ Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/ any live team. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219 / 07891 713547
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com

AUTO MEMORABILIA WANTED

ALSO

GARAGE CLEARANCES

old enamel signs,
petrol cans,
old jugs,
classic car parts,
bikes and motorbikes.
Anything old.

**** Top prices paid ****

01384 836219 / 07891 713547

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES Tickets and other sports memorabilia.
Top prices paid for the right item.
Call Paul on 01543 251743.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

SPECTRUM GAMES WANTED, plus any Spectrum 128k +2 computer wanted also any old Crash magazines wanted. 01902 892918.

WANTED

J40 Pedal car. Auto cycle, Sinclair CS, Vintage vending machines, anything old, Old fire arms.

01384 84309 or 07930 949337.

kitchens & bathrooms

WHITE BATH Mixer taps, electric shower for wall, glass, folding shower screen, as new, genuine reason for sale. £35 01922 446296

specialists at your service

aerials

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS

“I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract”

Steve - AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call 01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by Express & Star

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
Over 35 years experience in the industry
All aspects of building work including: Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
Discounts offered.
01902 579592 / 07837 994465

building supplies

QUALITY DOORS AND HARD-WOOD FLOORING @ low prices. Call Arnold Laver 0121 533 5428.

carpentry & joinery

B & S JOINERY Six internal pre-primed doors fully fitted from £370. 0121 5522672 or 07958 556265.

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Boys of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards. £695
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 9am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

gardening services

GREENLAND Fencing Decking Slabbing Turfing
(07956) 584523

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden, 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

gas fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED to check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavement. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

plastering

M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES. Home/Garden Improvements. Mark or Sara 07741 77042

STEVE'S PLASTERING SERVICE
Clean and Reliable. All Work Undertaken. All Areas. Call 0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

removals

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07829 453200 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN. Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 701943, 07869 635852.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS
LOCAL OR DISTANCE - FULLY INSURED
Free Quotes - Call Ric on: 07771 727119

roofing

**New Roofs,
Slating, Tiling,
Flat Fibre,
Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges,
Flashings uPVC Fascia Cladding.**

**0121 602 0346
07904 736165**



STORMFIX UK



Flat Roofs - Special Offer

Single Garage from **£799**
Double Garage from **£1,399**
07720 607822 • 0800 535 3168
Email: stormfixuk100@gmail.com
www.stormfixuk.co.uk

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 239899 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS



"Thanks to our Classified advertising in the Express & Star we are really busy!"

Grinsells Skip Hire.

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds

Brought to you by Express & Star

MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE

Save \$\$\$
All size skips and all areas covered
Some day delivery faster than a phone call!!
Open 7 days a week.
07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56

FREE
SCRAP CARS
REMOVED FOR
FREE

t.v. / home entertainment

service

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS



"TV Link are really pleased with their response from their Classified Campaign"

Bill - TV Link

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds

Brought to you by Express & Star

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price

EVERY TIME!



Sell your HOUSE - SIMPLE
You agree the price, we buy the house.

- NO AGENTS FEES
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS
- ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

30 yrs

0800 999 999 6
or **01384 500 500** 24/7 **www.black-countryhomes.co.uk**

CASH NOW

wolverhampton properties

FOR YOUR HOUSE

- Legal Fees Paid
- No Fees
- Any Condition

- Guaranteed Offer
- Repossessions Stopped

We can buy your house in

0800 389 6788 2 days

01902 628047 Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week Terms applicable

pink
run by women
0800 044 8109

sell quick

- No Fees*
- Any property
- Any condition
- Free confidential service
- Any area*
- Repossessions stopped
- Deceased estates

Call free 24 hours
*subject to terms
01922 689023

Private Investor

We are looking for houses in your area. We will take any type of property in any condition. Call us first - highest prices paid

Telephone
07756 022973
straight forward investment solutions

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

I pay 100% of purchase price
Call now for the best price on your house

Guaranteed offer*
Any condition
Free phone or landline
0800 783 2822
01384 226086



Need to sell your home fast?

We can help you make a fresh start

With solutions to suit...
you can clear your debts and make a fresh start

Purchase Agreed Within
7 DAYS

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED.
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
LOCAL COMPANY

MARION | PROPERTY SOLUTIONS
WHY NOT CALL US TODAY
for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
0121 405 0797 OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

Houses / Land Required

Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**
Sandwell area: Call **0121 696 4154**
Walsall & Cannock area: Call **01922 432049**
Wolverhampton: Call **01902 489901**
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk



CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS

"We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates."

Black Country Homes

ClassifiedAds

Brought to you by Express & Star

For great business results call
01902 319 191

LOOK
WE BUY ANY HOUSE

national homeowners
helpline.co.uk

in a mess?
talk in confidence
we can help

WE PAY MORE
ANY AREA
ANY CONDITION

24-7 **0800 085 7499**

24-7 **0121 308 7786**

STOP WE PAY MORE!
100% every time*
Free Solicitors No Fees*
Any Property*
Any Condition*

01902 628 047
*subject to terms

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS

"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"

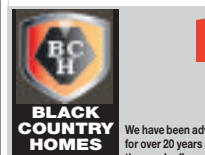
Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer

ClassifiedAds

Brought to you by Express & Star

For great business results call
01902 319 191

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates.

Black Country Homes

FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191

Brought to you by
Express & Star

accommodation to let
NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

BEDSIT self contained room with kitchen, unfurnished, suit single working mature person, Penn Road area, Heds req. 07486 379419.

RECENTLY REFURBISHED 1 and 2 bed flats, Halesowen, close to Merry Hill, DSS welcome. Call 01562 885668 or 07831 200692.

ROOMS, Brierley Hill, great decor and size, from £70pw including bills. 07932 085127.

FreeAds
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items upto £250.
Online at
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

employment wanted

EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER
requires work.
07341 021774.

VERY EXPERIENCED 7.5 TONNE DRIVER
with CPC seeks any work, full or part time or casual. Curtains, flats, skips etc
01922 516528.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500



BMW 320D TOURING
Auto, 2009, Le Mans blue, tan leather, 117k, FSH,
nav bluetooth
£6,295 ono
07957497988

IDEAL FIRST CAR

CITOREN C1
11 reg
Low mileage
MoT, group 1 insurance.
Excellent condition.
£1,895.
07432 010478.



FIAT PANDA ACTIVE 1.1
2008, 50,000 miles,
one owner,
full service history,
12 months MoT.
no advisories,
excellent condition.
£1,650.
07977 939497.

MAZDA2 TAMURA 2013 32,000 miles, Black, A/C, FSH, Alarm, MOT, Central locking, 1 owner, Tax, Stereo/CDE5,500 07811 312039

MERCEDES A150SE CLASSIC, 2008, 41,000 miles, silver, fsh, alarm, MoT, one owner, pass, excellent condition, Kingswinford, £4,000. 07941 945660.

AUTOMATIC

MERCEDES COMPRESSOR CLC 1800CC
2009, 39,000 miles, 2dr, coup, silver, long MoT, alloys, leather interior, petrol with panoramic sunroof, lady owner, £6,995.
07976 841809.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

7 Jobs

courses

Accredited
ocdn
BIRMINGHAM: 21-22 JUNE
WOLVERHAMPTON: 15-16 JULY & 16-17 SEPT.
TELFORD: 20-21 MAY & 23-24 OCTOBER

Learn how to take blood TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

NATIONALLY RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED
Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - National UK Qualification
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

More info or to book: **www.geopace.com**

HIGH DEMAND IN: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - Community - MOD



PEUGEOT PARTNER
2010, 7,500 miles, red, wheel-chair access vehicle.
£4,500.
01526 754127.

DIESEL

RANGE ROVER VOGUE
3.0 DIESEL
54 plate, full MOT, service history, good condition, genuine reason for sale.
£6,000 ono
07903 177567.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

RENAULT MEGAN EXPRESSION
1.6, 2009, manual, petrol. only 27,000 miles, cam belt replaced, grey, 5-dr hatchback. Immaculate condition.
£3,750.
07886 930209.



RENAULT SCENIC 1.6
2010, 20,000 miles, black, electric windows, air con, fsh, full MOT, central locking, pas, CD, navigation system, 4 new tyres and rear pads.
£5,650 ono.
01902 782243.



SAAB 93 SPORTS
2007, 98,000 Miles, beige, diesel service history, half leather seats, mot, fully loaded, £2,200
07531842567



SKODA YETI
2.0TDI, with spare wheel, silver, 8,800 miles, 11 months old, reason for sale is bereavement.
£14,950.
01547 530161. 07765 194970.



VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI
2011, 3 door, 33000, FSH, 2 owners. 12 months MOT, excellent condition.
£3,750
Phone kingswinford 01384 402023 or 07775 752851



VAUXHALL ZAFIRA
2009, less than 60,000 miles, grey, MoT until Oct 2017 and safety checks all upto date, good reason for sale, 4 new tyres, paid £4,500.
£2,999 ono.
07527 075956.



VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 7 SEATER SRI DIESEL
06 reg., very clean throughout, EW, AC, Trip meter, MoT Dec 18th.
£1,800 ono
07730 596969.

cars under £1500



FIAT PANDA 1248CC
04, MoT August, electric windows, central locking, air con, sunroof, 78k, good condition.
£1,040 ono.
07453 046600.

ESTATE

FORD FOCUS GHIA ESTATE
2000, 5Dr, red, MoT end of May.
£575 o.n.o.
More details on 01384 240744.

BARGAIN

FORD KA 1.3
2001, 3dr, red, 54,000 miles, 6 months MoT, PAS, CD player, used daily, very good condition.
£480 o.n.o.
07512 124893.



FORD KA STREET
Luxury cabriolet convertible, 2003, blue, MoT October, economical and reliable.
£850.
07462 766144.



HYUNDAI GETZ
5 door hatchback. Manual. 55 reg. 11 months MoT. Good little car. 1493cc diesel, colour red.
£450 ono.
01902 250100.



MINI COOPER
53 reg., red and white, half leather, MoT till September, just had a new clutch. Excellent condition.
£1,250.
07885 772238.



MINI ONE
03 reg, full MoT, FSH, 1 owner, excellent condition, black
£1,200. o.n.o.
01384 440258.



NISSAN ALMERA 1.5
2002, long MoT, excellent condition. PAS, central locking, electric windows, CD / MP3 player, Air con. Good reliable car.
£395 ono.
07831 168258.



NISSAN MICRA 1.3
1998, 49,950 miles, 6 months MoT, central locking, sunroof, alloys, CD, good condition, ideal first car.
£400.
01384 232586.

IDEAL FIRST CAR

PEUGEOT 106
5dr, 2002, 52 reg., one former keeper, 65,000 miles, excellent condition, MoT November, PAS.
£725 ono
07923 132859.

FOR A QUICK SALE

PEUGEOT 407
2004, 2 litre, petrol, 73,000 miles, fsh, 2 owners from new. Six months MoT.
Good condition.
£850 ono.
Telephone 07968 289030 (Dudley).

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

IDEAL FIRST CAR

RENAULT CLIO
2001, 1149cc, petrol, green, MoT till October 2017, good runner, no rot.
£300
01902 590989 / 07456 426674.

LOOK

SUZUKI LIANA
1600cc, 2002, silver, 5dr hatchback, petrol, lady owner the last 2 years, reliable car, new battery, approximately 75,000 miles.
radio / CD player, MoT till September 2017,
only £395 ono for quick sale.
07928 679949 or 07528 072920.



SUZUKI WAGON R+ GL
Y reg, 12 months MoT, 30,000 miles, two owners,
£550 ono.
01384 560037.

BARGAIN

VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.6 CLUB
2005, silver, 5dr hatchback, petrol, MoT October 2017, 109,000 miles, good runner.
£800
07812 372186.

classic cars

WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer. Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition.
01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

commercial vehicles



PEUGEOT PARTNER VAN 1.6 DIESEL S
5 doors, 2011, 116,000 miles, white. 12 months MoT. 2 owners, good condition.
£3,200 ono.
07825 937979.

motorbikes

BIKERS BOOTS Gloves, body armour, waterproofs etc, offers. 01902 753389.

MOTORBIKE TRAILER made by Roman Trailers, Bath, very good condition, £250 open to any offer. 01384 594803.

1904 H.A. DUFAUX 1 1/2hp cycle engine. SOLD.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400.
Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash. Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

9

Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email **marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk** (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

LICENSING ACT 2003 MAJOR VARIATION

Application has been made to Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council to vary a premises licence under section 34 of the Act by Tesco Stores Ltd, in respect of Tesco, DUDLEY RD, HALESOWEN EXP UNIT A COOMBS ROAD, DUDLEY ROAD, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS, B62 8AA. The variation proposes a change and extension to the hours the store can sell alcohol (as indicated below) and also the removal of conditions on the licence.

PROPOSED LICENSING HOURS	
Monday	06:00 - 23:00
Tuesday	06:00 - 23:00
Wednesday	06:00 - 23:00
Thursday	06:00 - 23:00
Friday	06:00 - 23:00
Saturday	06:00 - 23:00
Sunday	06:00 - 23:00

The licensing register and a record of the application may be inspected at the offices of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Legal & Democratic Services, Unit 1, Hurst Business Park, Brierley Hill, Narrowboat Way, West Midlands, DY5 1UF between normal office hours except public holidays. Any representation by a responsible authority or an interested party must be made in writing to the council by 06-Apr-17. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application, for which a person is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.

10

Personals

personal

AN ATTRACTIVE, LONELY, 65 YEAR OLD FEMALE
would like to meet an attractive male, 65-68 for friendship and outings, maybe more.
Genuine replies only please.

Box Number P20727,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

RETIRE GUY
WLTm slimish non smoking lady who is looking for a little TLC.
Box Number P20731 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

WIDOWER, YOUNG 73
solvent, own house, eye sight problem, seeks lovely, sweet lady.
Dudley and surrounding areas.
Box Number P20725,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

BRIERLEY HILL BULLETS
Charter Standard Club
Players needed for Under 11s team.
Contact Tim: 07847 253889
Tony: 07977 308183

WITHYMOOR COLTS
Charter Standard Community Status Club.
All Managers minimum FA Level 1 and CRC Checked.
UNDER 16s GIRLS
are looking for Forward & Mid Field Players, current school year 11,
Call Sean 07935 464079.

WOMENS OPEN AGE FOOTBALL TEAM
Require experienced players, all positions considered to strengthen and existing team.
Dudley/Kingswinford area.
Please contact
Ian 07896 154216 or
Sean 07794 274305.

general
HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.
BURIAL PLOT Danescourt Cemetery, £1000.
07974 069413.

LOOKING FOR MY SON
Mr A Lewis
Last seen Wolverhampton
Please get in touch.
Box Number P20726,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL

01902 317878

..... LIMITED OFFER

SELL YOUR CAR FOR ONLY £9.99**
FOR 6 NIGHTS IN PRINT AND ONLINE



FIAT PUNTO 1.0
2001, bright red, 55,000 miles, 6 months MoT, radio/CD player, new tyres, some history, ideal first car.
Advert example only
£1,200 o.n.o
01902 123456.



PEUGEOT 207 2.0 PETROL
2003, metallic gold, nice interior, all electric, fsh, full MoT, sunroof, radio/CD player, very good condition.
Advert example only.
£2,600 o.n.o
01902 123456.



RENAULT LAGUNA 2.0 DIESEL
2005, 5dr, black metallic, full MOT, 56K, dealer serviced, full av, fsh, leather interior, sat nav, CD system, excellent condition, (Advert example only)
£2,500 o.n.o
01902 123456.

5 GREAT REASONS TO SELL YOUR CAR IN THE EXPRESS & STAR

1. *91% of **CUSTOMERS** would **RECOMMEND** our services.
2. We reach over **680,000** potential buyers a week.
3. At only £9.99 we give **UNRIVALLED** value for money.
4. The price you see is the price you pay, **NO HIDDEN COSTS.**
5. For your convenience you can **TALK TO US**, or **BOOK ONLINE.**

Call us on 01902 317878

or book online at **bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk**

* 135 customers surveyed July 2016)
** Private advertisers only

ClassifiedAds

Subaru does it different — and well

By John Griffiths

Subaru has a reputation for going its own way when it comes to the design and engineering – brave but it works.

But then there's the company's BRZ, the result of a collaboration with Toyota who produce a similar car under the GT86 name.

In some ways it is more conventional, even traditional – a classic front engined, rear wheel drive coupe, a layout designed for agility and rewarding driving. It has all the ingredients of a true sports car: a solid structure, low seating, low centre of gravity and excellent steering. But unlike the rest of the Subaru range, it's rear wheel drive but still uses its characterful flat four boxer engine.

It isn't the most powerful or quickest of the genre but it is more affordable and its enthusiast-focussed dynamics make it a delight on the road.

And owners have a bonus – a beefy, eye-catching car with something of a rarity value as the UK importers expect to bring in less than 150 cars this year, even with a new and improved model on offer.

The new car costs from £26,050 and, in the UK, comes only in flagship SE Lux trim, undercutting its Toyota stablemate and rival.

While it's 100bhp down on the class-leading, rear engined Porsche Cayman (which costs 50 per cent more), it's also 100kg lighter and its centre of gravity is 2.5cm lower – two factors which contribute to its excellent handling characteristics.

The boxer engine turns out 197bhp and 205Nm of torque, enough to waft it to 62mph in a far from sluggish 7.6 seconds with the growling exhaust note much appreciated

by the keen driver. Drivers will get plenty of chance to experience that, as with peak power at 7,000 revs and maximum pulling power at 6,400, it's an engine which thrives on revs if you want to get the best out of it – again, a classic sports car experience.

The official fuel average is a respectable 36.2mpg for the manual, 39.8mpg for the auto. Reading those figures after the test was a bit of a surprise, as the test car (a manual) actually did better, with a return of 38mpg. That doesn't happen very often.

It comes with a six-speed manual transmission or a six-speed auto (with paddle shift for manual intervention) which is clearly tuned for sporty responses which, surprisingly, also produces an even beefier soundtrack.

The BRX is a traditional three-door coupe design, and definitely comes under the classification of a 2+2 as the rear seats are left with restricted leg room if you have tall adults in the front. Luggage space is 243 litres, but if you fold those rear seats down it rises to a very practical 1,270 litres.

The new, 2017 model retains its basic styling – if it's not broke, don't fix it – but there are some changes, including updating to LED headlights and tail light cluster. Plus there's a wider front bumper and taller rear wing.

The 17-inch alloy wheels are shod with 215/45 tyres and there are powerful ventilated disc brakes all round.

Inside there is a smaller steering wheel, the cabin appears to be trimmed with higher quality materials including leather and alcantara front seats. It has also been updated for some of the latest in-car technology, with a colour touchscreen for the navigation and



The new car costs from £26,050 and, in the UK, comes only in flagship SE Lux trim, undercutting its Toyota stablemate and rival

infotainment system, plus the audio and Bluetooth systems. Voice control for various functions is also among the latest additions.

Well shaped full sports seats (heated of course) in the front and the low driving position put the human in sports mode as soon as you get in.

Automatic dual zone air conditioning, electric mirrors, at LCD trip metre, cruise control, aluminium pedals, hill start assist, ABS and an electronic stability control are also standard.

There's also a track mode button which sharpens up the throttle (and transmission if its an auto) responses, and turns off the stability system to exploit the full rear wheel drive agility of the car in controlled surroundings. The ride is sportily firm around town, but really comes into its own on the open road, with an excellent combination of comfort and handling.

Driving the BRZ you really get the impression that the engineers who designed it were themselves true enthusiasts, and wanted

to spread the word with a truly focussed car – not just by creating a coupe-bodied car with a chassis little different from the average family saloon.

As time has moved on, the upgrading of the cabin and the addition of new technology is welcome, while retaining the 2.0 litre engine provides adequate power to have fun with the excellent chassis while keeping running costs in check.

Once again, Subaru has done it different – and done it well.



Get that cracking Vauxhall you've always wanted
PLUS a great deal more

£1000^{*} SPENDING MONEY

THE VAUXHALL SALES EVENT 17 - 21 MARCH 2017

£500
SPENDING
MONEY FROM
VAUXHALL

£500
SPENDING
MONEY FROM
US

20%
OFF
ACCESSORIES[^]

£500
SAVING BY
BEATING THE
TAX MAN^{**}

EXCLUSIVE TO YOUR BLACK COUNTRY VAUXHALL DEALERS

Dudley Motor Company
Trindle Road Dudley
01384 454100
dudleymotorco.co.uk

Halesowen Motor House
Dudley Road Halesowen
0121 503 0001
halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk

Stourbridge Motor House
High Street Amblecote
01384 447 970
stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk

T Wall Garages
High Street Pensnett
01384 288333
twall.co.uk



VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.3 (12.1) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 17.9 (15.8) – 85.6 (3.3), CO2 emissions: 373 – 88g/km.*

^{*}Spending money not available on VIVA, Corsa Sting, Corsa Sting R and Corsa Diamond. £500 Vauxhall spending money given as pre-paid debit card and is not given in cash. Your card is issued by R. Raphael & Sons plc pursuant to license by MasterCard International Incorporated. MasterCard® is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Inc. R. Raphael & Sons plc is a UK bank authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (registration number 161502) and is permitted to issue e-money. Head office and registered office at 19-21 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1D 7ED, company registration number 01288938. £500 Retailer Spending money available as a retailer contribution towards the vehicle cost. Spending money available on eligible, selected new vehicle orders from 17-21 March 2017 and registered by 31 March 2017. ^{**}Savings of up to £500 available by beating the VED increase on 1 April on eligible, selected new vehicles registered by 31 March 2017. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 units. All other customers are excluded. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/salesevent or contact your local Retailer for details. [^]Prices do not include fitting or painting. Prices include VAT. Accessories must be purchased between 17-21 March 2017. Accessories must be ordered by Retailer at the time of new car order. Online orders are excluded from the offer. General Motors UK Limited t/a Vauxhall Motors reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of print.

New Twingo offers something extra

By John Griffiths

Vive le difference, as the French say, which may explain the reasoning behind Renault's latest sporting model.

It's a city car which – a real rarity – comes with an agile real-wheel driving experience and peppery performance for under £14,000.

The GT is the new flagship of the Twingo range, a model which stood out at its launch because it is a rear-engined, rear wheel drive mini car, sharing the same platform which Mercedes-Benz used for its smart four.

With so many competitors in the city car class, you need to be different if you want to be noticed and the Twingo succeeds in doing that.

The Twingo is a four seater with prices starting from £9,545, and until now has been offered with either 70 or 90bhp versions of the 998cc, three cylinder Tce engine. The proven Tce technology means a small capacity, turbo charged petrol engine – the turbo offering more power than conventional four cylinder rivals but, crucially, more torque too.

The new GT gets more of both – 110bhp and an impressive 170Nm of torque from a low 2,000rpm. That means plenty of get up and go (0 to 62mph in 9.6 seconds), impressive overtaking ability and a quieter, more refined experience at cruising speeds. In essence, a true GT experience albeit in a smaller than usual package.

It's pick-up in the 50 to 70 overtaking bracket is among the best in class, with its top gear pitched on the high side for cruising economy and refinement.

Add to that the feel and agility of a rear wheel

drive car, and precise steering with maximum driver feedback, and even respectable fuel economy of 54.3mpg.

The £13,755 GT will be the ultimate Twingo – there isn't going to be a Renaultsport version like the 133bhp which topped the previous, front wheel drive range.

That's because it simply wasn't possible to tweak any more power out of the engine which sits very snugly under the rear boot floor.

That may be a disappointment to some enthusiasts, but if it doesn't have the outright performance the GT doesn't have the more extreme Renaultsport suspension and ultra low profile tyres, so its ride is softer and more refined, particularly over some of our less well-maintained rural roads.

There's also the issue of insurance costs for a car with so much appeal to the young (or indeed the young at heart).

Apart from the unique 17-inch alloys (which look good on this little car) one of the visual clues to the GT's identity is the extra air intake scoop along the rear nearside wheel, to feed more air into the engine. Not so obvious are features such as a modified turbocharger, the fuel pump, water pump and gear ratios specifically developed for the sporty Twingo, plus updated springs and anti-roll bar and a lower ride height.

The engine is mounted particularly low compared to more conventional rivals which gives more stability, and even while tackling some wet and winding roads the GT never gave any indication of being tail heavy.

RENAULT TWINGO GT, £13,755



The GT is the new flagship of the Twingo range. This impressive new Renault stands out from its competitors in the city car class.

Indeed, it's a nimble and well-balanced car and, as with all cars these days, it has an electronic stability control to help tame any wayward instincts which might occur.

The steering is, of course, power assisted but it still retains the feedback and more direct connection with the road than front wheel drive cars.

The electronic instrument display, a mix of analogic speedo and digital trip readings, is a model of clarity. The driver's seat and steering wheel have a good range of adjustment, and

headroom shouldn't be a problem for even taller drivers. Leg room in the rear is adequate (depending on the size of those in front) and at least on a par with rival city cars. The standard of materials is high, including the part-leather upholstery, giving the GT a quality feel you'd expect of a flagship model.

The test car was fitted with a number of options including the £600 Techno Pack R-Link which effectively upgrades the in-car technology to mirror that of bigger, more expensive cars. Using the central colour

touchscreen (which includes navigation and other information), it replaces the standard audio system with a reversing camera, Bluetooth, full multi-media connectivity, hands-free calls and voice control.

The Twingo GT isn't the cheapest of city cars, but retains all the advantages of that class of vehicle around town while offering something extra. Rather a lot extra, in this case, with its nippy nature, long-distance driveability and refinement, as long as the comfort and equipment of a larger car.

EVERY FRIDAY!

NewCar?

VIEW OUR VIDEO ROAD TESTS

WWW.EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

NEW CAR OFFERS

USED CAR DEALS

PRIVATE AND FROM THE TRADE!

NEW CAR REVIEWS & ROAD TESTS

Follow us on Twitter @drivetimeES



MNA

Fabulous Ford features

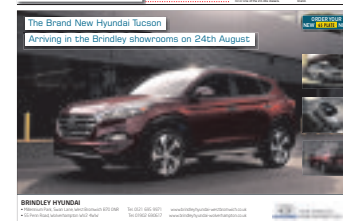
The new Ford Edge is a real star. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 2.0-litre EcoBoost engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 2.0-litre EcoBoost engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 2.0-litre EcoBoost engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior.

Hills Ford have new 66 plate Fords at the very best prices

Model	Price
NEW ECOBOOST TITANIUM	£4,400
NEW SUGA TITANIUM SPORT	£1,700
NEW FORD EDGE	£500

Brindley Hyundai Aiming high with supermini

The new Hyundai i10 is a real star. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 1.0-litre engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 1.0-litre engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior.



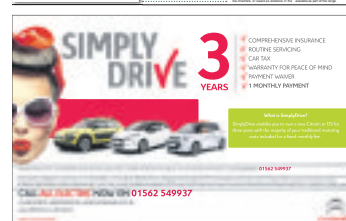
Autosales Suzuki Suzuki true to principles

The design goes minor visual tweaks, the option of 4WD and a five-door bodystyle. The design goes minor visual tweaks, the option of 4WD and a five-door bodystyle.

Model	Price
THE NEW SUZUKI RANGE FROM ONLY	£6,999
SUZUKI CELERIO	£6,999
SUZUKI SWIFT	£8,999
SUZUKI JIMNY	£12,499
SUZUKI BALENO	£12,999
SUZUKI S-CROSS	£13,999
SUZUKI VITARA	£14,499

Wraps off new Citroën C3

The new Citroën C3 is a real star. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 1.0-litre engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior. It's a car that's got it all – a powerful 1.0-litre engine, a sleek design, and a spacious interior.



CHANGE UP A GEAR WITH **MOTURING**

Express & Star

Aussie rules in a game where going is tough



Practice is all important before a fixture

EVERYONE knows Wolves are the main football team in Wolverhampton. But did you know there is another football team in the city, also named after Wolves, and play in gold and black as well?

But this team doesn't play with 11 players on the pitch, or in the English football pyramid for that matter. Instead they go by the rules of Australian football, where you can pass with your fists and tackle someone off the ball.

Introducing Wolverhampton Wolverines Australian Football Club, who for the last eight years have been representing the city in the Antipodean version of the sport, which is 'rougher and tougher'.

Here they field nine players on rugby pitches where they have to score between four posts instead of two.

The team was founded in 2009 by PE teacher Ian Mitchell from Codsall and in that time the team's popularity has continually grown.

Charity

Wolverines play in the Australian Football League Central and Northern England division, and last year came close to winning it. They are currently in pre-season and soon will host a charity shield competition in aid of Balls to Cancer, where teams from all over the country will come to the Black Country to compete.

AFL Football has been described as a mix of sports by Mitchell, as it combines styles from English football, rugby and basketball.

"It is a lot rougher than football or rugby," he said. "You are allowed to knock people out the way and tackle people off the ball to within five metres," he said. "It combines a variety of sports, there are elements of basketball, rugby and football. There are also a wide variety of strengths that are useful to have in the game."

"In midfield it helps to have tall and short players. Tall players help to catch the ball and pass it to their team at the start of the match, which is kicked off with the ball being thrown in the air. But small players are quick and able to find space to run with the ball."

There is no goalkeeper in AFL, but there are defenders, midfielders and attackers. Traditionally the

SPORTING FEATURE

By Jamie Brassington

"It is a lot rougher than football or rugby. There are a wide variety of strengths that are useful to have in the game"

sport is played as 18-a-side in Australia, Ian said, but because it is a 'minority sport' here, he says it would be hard to field that many players at the moment.

He set up Wolverines following a trip to Australia in 2006, after he had finished his university education.

During his year-long journey, where he travelled with friends from Melbourne to the East Coast and West Coast, he developed a passion for the game.

"I found I wasn't enjoying playing football anymore," said Ian. "I was watching a lot in Australia and also played a bit there."

When he came back to the West Midlands, Ian joined an AFL team in Birmingham before setting up Wolverhampton Wolverines.

Since then he says there have been around 70 different players who have come through the team, with some going on to represent Great Britain at international level.

"Last season several of our senior men became European champions with the Great Britain Bulldogs and one of our girls did the same with the Great Britain Swans," said Ian. "This season several of the senior men are hoping to be selected to go down to Australia in August to represent Great Britain in the International Cup."

He said the club was now focusing on producing women's and junior teams. The club used to play their home games at Wolverhampton and Willenhall Rugby Club but now they are based at Bloxwich Rugby.

Wolverines compete in the AFL England's Central and Northern League, where they compete against Birmingham, Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Huddersfield, Merseyside and Tyne Tees.



Contact is not a problem in the Aussie game



Lewis Gedney and Cameron Cope, who play for Great Britain Bulldogs, with Sophie Morris who plays for GB Vixens



Wolverhampton Wolverines practise hard on the training pitch

Baggies heroes line up for charity clash

'SUPER' Bob Taylor, 'Big Dave' Darren Moore and 'Great Escape' hero Geoff Horsfield are among a strong Baggies line-up for a charity game in aid of Mary Stevens Hospice next month.

Former skipper Moore has been putting the Albion XI together to compete against a team of Stourbridge legends on Sunday, April 2 at the War Memorial Athletic Ground at Amblecote.

Also joining the Baggies line-up are Scotland international Nigel Quashie, Wales striker Andy Johnson, Ian Hamilton, keeper Jonathan Gould, father to Glassboys' current no 1 Matt, ex-Coventry and Blues frontman Dele Adebola, Danish shot-stopper Brian Jensen, Daryl Burgess and Paul Pechisolido.

Sponsorship opportunities for local businesses and for children to be mascots on the day are available. Call Amanda Bowen on 01384 377778.

The game will kick off at 2.30pm, with entry into the ground at £5 for adults aged 16 plus, and free for under-16s. The game will be preceded by a big family fun day from 1pm.

The debut event in April 2016 raised almost £15,000 and ended 1-1, with Bob Taylor and Damian Whitcombe on target in front of more than 2,000.

BCT's Sandland picks up aquathlon bronze

BLACK Country triathletes contended with low temperatures, wind and rain, as well as competitive fields as the spring duathlon season in the UK got under way.

Paul Rogers travelled to Cheshire to compete in the standard distance ITU World Championship Qualifier at Oulton Park which consisted of an 8.6km run, a 38.8km bike followed by a 4.3km run. He came home in 1:57:09, 38th overall and third in the MV50 age group.

The Mallory Park Racing Circuit in Leicestershire was the venue of choice for three of the junior male BCT athletes who competed in the GoTri Duathlon consisting of a 3km run, 11km bike and a 2km run. Despite the awful conditions all put in a sterling performance with Reece Ashfield finishing fourth place in 39:21, Ollie Mason came 12th in 45:27 and Ollie Evans 24th in 50:09.

Noah Sandland, from BCT's junior section, was the only club competitor racing in the Burntwood Aquathlon, but claimed a bronze medal for his third-place finish for his age group, completing a 400m swim in 5:58, followed by a 3k run in 15:31 giving an overall race time of 21:29. The BCT Aquathlon which is on Saturday March 25 at Wombourne Leisure Centre.

Tennis club serves up new chairman

WOLLASTON Lawn Tennis Club has signed in a new chairman. Retired headteacher Alan Hughes has taken over the role following the club's AGM.

Hughes, who has been a playing member at the Wollaston Club for the last eight years, and has been the men's team captain for the past two seasons, takes on the role from lifetime member John Cutler.

Hughes said Cutler had been chairman through an exciting and busy period for the club. He said: "The club is in a very strong position with a hard working voluntary committee that has overseen the refurbishment of the clubhouse, four courts and a re-surfaced entrance to the premises."

"By next spring the club is hoping to have completed further substantial investment in the refurbishment of the remaining four courts with new high lighting."

The Prestwood Drive club boasts excellent facilities and provides an array of competitive team tennis, social tennis for all abilities as well as excellent opportunities for junior development. Hughes added: "Membership is thriving but there is always room for people of all ages and abilities."



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

Glassboys are shut out by visitors

Stourbridge 0 Mickleover 0
ASSISTANT manager Jon Ford admitted Stourbridge got what they deserved after being held to a frustrating Evo-Stik Premier stalemate by Mickleover Sports on Saturday.

The Glassboys were chasing a fifth successive league win but their impressive form deserted them as they struggled to break the resistance of a stubborn Sports side.

Despite failing to close the gap on leaders Blyth Spartans, Stourbridge remain on course for the play-offs with a seven-point cushion to sixth.

Ford said: "It's frustrating – we weren't at the races. They came with a game plan and made it hard for us but it wasn't about them – it was about us."

"We tried a couple of different formations to break them down but we just lacked a bit of knowledge on how to do it. Overall we didn't create enough," Ford added.

Chances were few and far between in the first half although Sports almost grabbed the lead on six minutes, midfielder Andy Dales cut in from the left and fired narrowly wide of the far post.

Stour's best moments came through Luke Benbow with a 35 yard free-kick that threatened to creep inside the post.

At the other end, Glassboys keeper Matt Gould had to be alert to palm away Tyler Blake's powerful strike before leading marksman Benbow was denied again by the legs of keeper Nick Draper.

Stour grew increasingly frustrated after the break but they stuck to their task and were almost rewarded in stoppage time when Leon Broadhurst's header was cleared off the line.

Glassboys maintain their push for promotion when they travel to Workington on Saturday before entertaining Ilkeston on Monday.

Zaber and Davies in action on title fight undercard

OLD Hill boxer Manny Zaber lines up in Birmingham next month, with Tivendale's Ryan Davies also on the card.

The main attraction on BCB Promotions' 'Heavy Artillery' bill will be the British Challenge Cruiserweight title bout between Wolverhampton's Joshua Burke and Coventry's Dilly Singh.

Singh has made a solid start to his professional career, picking up a hat-trick of wins against foreign opposition. Burke has an even record of two win and two defeats going into the eight-round contest at The Venue, Icknield Port Road, Edgbaston on April 28.

Six further contests will supplement the main event with Brummies Luke Heron (middleweight), Ijaz Ahmed (bantam) and debutant Aaron Murphy (cruiser) enjoying home advantage.

Welterweight Davies turns over for his bow alongside super featherweight Zaber, aka 'Pac Man'.

Leamington's Michael Cole completes the line-up at super lightweight.

Tickets are £35 or £60 VIP Ring-side and are available by calling 07772 503432.

Trophy-winning trio mix it with stars



From left, Lloyd, Lowe and Shelley. Pic John Elise

STARS of the motorbike world were on hand to present some of the region's finest club racers with their championship trophies.

The Moat House Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent staged The Stars at Darley and Club Championship Presentation of Awards and Annual Dinner.

Staffordshire's Lloyd Shelley and Andrew Lowe, and the Black Country's Neil Lloyd claimed their first, second and third place awards.

Trophies were presented by Ben and Tom Birchall, last year's World F2 Sidecar Champions, Brierley Hill's Michael Rutter, a multiple Stars at Darley winner, and last year's Stars at Dar-

Motorcycling

ley champion Peter Hickman, from Burton upon Trent.

Darley Moor spokesman Brian George said more than 350 people attended, including Stuart Hicken, team manager at Hawk Racing and Neil Tuxworth, team manager of Honda's British-based team in Louth, Lincolnshire, who was honoured for his 20 years in racing.

Lloyd, 46, from Wednesbury, finished both the Pre 98's Up to 500cc and Lightweight series in second place.

UNLUCKY 13 AS HALES LOSE LEAD

Birmingham Solihull 30 Old Halesonians 13
HALES travelled to Bees looking for a win despite forced changes to the squad with both the charismatic Neil Mason and Rich Taylor unavailable.

The initial exchanges favoured Hales, and in fact they put 13 points on the board without reply before the hosts came back.

A strong scrummage forced a penalty after 10 minutes and Ian Briggs converted to give the visitors a 3-0 lead.

The visitors were producing some excellent passages of play at this stage with front row Matt Young, Sam Jones and Matt Probert looking strong. Meanwhile, Ben Tibbets at scrum half, Carl Robinson and Ben Barkley in the centres made good ground and kept the home side on the back foot.

After 15 minutes Joe Collingham collected the ball, drove through the defence and fed Chris Hooper inside for a try, converted by Briggs, giving Old Hales a 10-point advantage.

Crucial

Hales seemed in control as Bees lost their loose head prop to a yellow card for collapsing the scrum. Briggs extended the visitors' lead to 13-0 with the home side responding shortly after with a penalty for a 3-13 score at half-time.

It was crucial for Hales to keep up the pressure into the second half. They started well but lost momentum with injuries to Rich Sawyer and Collingham and on 57 minutes Bees came back with penalty.

Hales allowed the opposition into the game and the last 10 minutes was all Bees. Briggs received a yellow card, the resulting line out saw the home side find their man and drive for a converted try to draw level.

Hales were carrying injuries as Bees built the pressure. Two more converted tries and a penalty saw them victorious 30-13 – another game won in the first half and lost in the second.

Hales sit sixth in the National 3 Midlands league and meet Worcester Wanderers at home in the semi-final of the North Midlands Cup on Saturday, kick off 2pm.

Riders on track for new season



Cradley Heathens riders and management team ahead of the new season

CRADLEY riders are preparing for a busy few days as they take to the track for the new season. The team will be put through their paces at practice sessions before heading to Birmingham for an opening night challenge match against reigning champions next Wednesday.

Fans are reminded they can see the team at Monmore next Monday night when they join up with Wolverhampton for their press and practice night. Heathens are expected on track from around 7pm. Admission is available from 6.30 by donation, minimum £1, to charity.

Before then the riders will be together at Scunthorpe's Eddie Wright Raceway on Saturday afternoon. Boss Will Pottinger said: "It's a

big few days for the lads and everyone is looking forward to it.

"It will be a good workout for the lads at Birmingham next Wednesday, we're going there with a positive attitude – but it will also be good for us to get some laps around there before our opening National League meeting with King's Lynn at Perry Barr the following week."

Graham Jones will once again be on board as coach/technical adviser to assist Pottinger on race nights. Heathens have also sent their good wishes to Wolverhampton legend Peter Karlsson, a track specialist at the old Dudley Wood Stadium, for his farewell meeting at Monmore this Sunday.

Yeltz in drop threat after heavy defeat

Whitby Town 4 Halesowen Town 1
HALESOWEN are now in serious relegation trouble after coming back from the long trip to Whitby pointless.

The Yeltz lost 4-1 after a disappointing second half performance, and are now looking over their shoulders in the Evo-Stik League Premier Division.

It looked good for the Yeltz on five minutes when Liam Slade scrambled the ball home to put them ahead.

But when Adam Gell just put the ball wide for the home side minutes later it was their cue to come back into the game and they were on level terms at the break through Mikey Roberts who slotted home after receiving a pass from Dale Hopson.

Whitby took control in the second half and took the lead on 59 minutes when David Carson slipped the ball to Callum Martin who crossed to the far post for Matthew Tymon to head home.

Tymon then turned provider for Hopson who cut in from the right and hammered the ball home.

Carson got in on the scoring act on 75 minutes when he saw a Roberts shot deflected back to him and made no mistake.

Whitby's Tymon was given a straight red card in injury time, but Yeltz are now just two points and two places above the relegation zone.

Halesowen 1 Spennymoor 2
HALESOWEN slumped closer towards the drop zone after play-off contenders Spennymoor came from behind.

The visitors also struck the woodwork three times and had an effort cleared off the line by Asa Charlton.

Yeltz took the lead when Ben Clarke's effort 16th minute effort was deflected in off defender Joe Tait. Bradley Lewis headed wide four minutes later.

Moors drew level in the 24th minute when Tait netted and Jamie Chandler scored a 74th minute winner.

Tributes to angling club secretary Roy

HALESOWEN RBL Angling Club are mourning the death of club secretary Roy Smith.

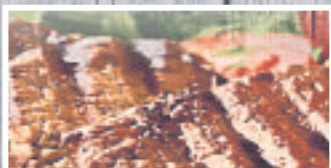
The 74-year-old, who passed away following a short illness, had been a stalwart and vital member of the club for many years before assuming the roles of both secretary and acting treasurer.

Fellow club members, match organiser John Billingham and Lawrie Mullheron said it would be a difficult task to find a worthy successor.

"Roy will be sorely missed, especially on our club matches and at Halesowen RBL AC headquarters, The Whitley pub and also the Hunting Tree."

★ ★ ★

The Chronicle, a Midlands News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Kettle, Telford, Thursday, March 16, 2017



We take bookings for private parties from 2 to 50 people

THE ROWLEY BAR & GRILL

Steaks | Mixed Grills | Curries

HAPPY HOUR - 1pm to 6pm Monday to Friday

Lagers, Ciders and Selected Top Shelf

NEW MENU
Now Available



BT Sport

07932 634 531

47 HAWES LANE, B65 9AF,

ROWLEY REGIS www.therowley.co.uk

FACEBOOK.COM/ROWLEYBARANDGRILL

THEROWLEYBAR

sky SPORTS